

ANTI-FOREIGN OUTRAGES AND THE TSUNG-LI YAMEN.

In September, 1891, a protocol was signed by the Foreign Ministers at Peking recording their joint view of the situation arising from the serious anti-foreign outrages that were then the subject of representation to the Chinese Government. The concluding paragraph of the protocol was as follows:—"The undersigned can only state once more their conviction that the situation is an exceedingly serious, if not actually for the moment a critical one; and that unless it be possible to impress upon the Chinese Government and the people that the foreign Powers are fully prepared to see their subjects and citizens protected and the stipulations of the treaties carried out, further outrages and attacks, of much greater importance even than those which have already taken place during the last four months, may be expected with certainty, and will in that case probably lead to graver complications than if a determined stand were now made by all the Treaty Powers conjointly, as a formal warning to China that she will not be allowed to set at naught her solemn engagements." We have given this quotation on a previous occasion, but need make no apology for again bringing it before the public at the present juncture, when it is peculiarly *apropos*. Had the determined stand recommended by the Ministers been made in 1891 the outrages which have since occurred, culminating in the fearful massacre at Kucheng, would never have taken place. It seems more than ever important that a determined stand should be made now, but, unfortunately, appearances point rather to a repetition of the former farce. A trial is in progress at Kucheng, which may result in the execution of a number of coolies accused of being concerned in the massacre, but of what avail is that? Life is cheap in China, when it is only coolies that are concerned. The parties to be got at are those who instigate the outrages, men of position and education, in whose hands the actual perpetrators are mere tools. The latter may be called Vegetarians or by any other name, but behind them are the literati and officials, at whose behest they act. In a despatch to the Marquis of SALISBURY in July, 1891, Sir JOHN WALSHAM said:—"With regard to the alleged degradation of several mandarins, this is precisely what has been continually demanded by the foreign representatives, but the Chinese Government decline as yet to adopt this measure, which they declare to be the business of the local authorities, and not that of the Central Government. However, they have owned to the dismissal of the Magistrate at Wuhu, who is generally admitted to have been the only officer who did his duty." The indifference of the Peking Government was at that time well established, indifference so pronounced as virtually to amount to approval of the outrages that had been committed and an encouragement to their repetition. In another despatch Sir JOHN WALSHAM, who, whatever his failings, seems on that occasion to have formed a very just appreciation of the situation, exposed the shortcomings of the Tsung-li Yamen, and concluded as follows:—"Instead, however, of our finding the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen showing zeal and energy in carrying out the Imperial commands, we discover that they are treating the whole matter as if it really hardly concerned them, and as being a passing trouble to be dealt with by local authorities alone. If

the foreign representatives venture to demur to this indifference they are quietly put off with the excuse that, according to Chinese etiquette, it is not customary to do this, that, or the other thing, and that we must not be impatient." In a despatch to the Tsung-li Yamen itself the Foreign Ministers wrote:—"Had there been no foreigners concerned, had the outrages been committed by Chinese on Chinese, there would have been no lack of energy and activity in dealing with the offenders, and the *Gazette* would have been filled with the accounts of punishments awarded and of rewards bestowed for meritorious services in discovering and bringing to justice the guilty parties, but, as usual, nothing of the kind has now been done, and, while the reports of successful attacks on foreigners and native Christians have spread over the whole Empire, the great mass of the population has been persistently left, and is still being left, in absolute ignorance of the measures taken to bring the guilty parties to justice." There is no need to go beyond the official documents to prove the absolute futility of negotiating with the Tsung-li Yamen. We do not hold the view, so often advanced, that the Central Government is powerless. It is well able to deal with the situation, but it does not want to be bothered with it. The Tsung-li Yamen is a department specially created to serve as a buffer between the Imperial Government and the foreign representatives, to bamboozle the latter with tergiversation, to tire them out with endless talk, and, if something at last has to be done, to reduce that something as near as possible to a nullity. Imperial decrees may be issued, under pressure; it is for the Tsung-li Yamen to see that as little as possible is heard of them. As there is no satisfaction to be got at Peking, therefore, it behoves the Powers themselves to take satisfaction at the places where the outrages occur. A reversion to the gunboat policy is what is required. The giving-in policy has been tried for thirty years and has proved a lamentable failure. When outrages occur let the chief officials of the place be seized and carried to foreign parts, to be there detained for the remainder of their lives, punishment being also inflicted on the people by the destruction of their property, and soon there would be no inclination to indulge in the anti-foreign riots which now disgrace China. One or two lessons of that kind would prove quite effective.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION IN CHINA AND NATIONAL PROGRESS.

It would be a grave mistake to argue, from the decision of the Chinese Government to construct a railway from the mouth of the Grand Canal opposite Chinkiang to Peking, that the Imperial Authorities had been converted into champions of progress. The decision has absolutely no political significance. The silting up of the Grand Canal, through which the grain-laden junks formerly sailed for the north with the tribute rice, taken in conjunction with the destruction of the Peiyang Squadron by Japan, brought home to the mandarins the peril of being dependent upon their steamers for bringing it up the coast. As a matter of fact the fleet of the China Merchants' S. N. Company was scattered during the war, and the vessels had to run under foreign flags, while even then they were liable to seizure had the Japanese Navy not been

otherwise occupied. Had the railway, which was practically sanctioned by the Throne some five years ago, then been commenced it would probably have been available for use during the struggle, and would have been most invaluable for the carriage of troops, arms, and supplies. But the pedant patriot CHANG CHIH-TUNG had dazzled the minds of the Imperial Council with his project to make the railway with steel rails made in Central China of native ore from Honan, and he was allowed to postpone the work until he could procure the material from Chinese soil. Vast sums of money have since been sunk in mining and the construction of ironworks, and the Viceroy is now able to point to huge works at Hanyang, which yet, however, cannot turn out the steel rails for the Grand Trunk Railway of China. "While the grass grows the steed may starve" is a proverb the erudite Viceroy has never unearthed in the Chinese classics, and with all his experience in dealing with foreigners he has not—any more than the ordinary oriental—learned the value of time. The ignominious defeat sustained at the hands of the Japanese has, however, so far impressed itself upon the Imperial Government that, though they may appreciate as little as ever the value of time, they see that the want of more certain means of communication with the Central provinces may imperil the existence of the eighteen provinces as an autonomous empire. The danger has been near, seemed pressing, and is not yet so distant as to have waned materially. Hence there is reason to suppose the work will really soon be commenced. But though this line be made and Peking brought into close communication with the Yangtze ports and Shanghai it does not follow that other great lines will be constructed. If some rapacious viceroy and his yet more greedy underlings see in a railway scheme a fine milch cow to be milked at will, it may happen that such line will be constructed, the promoters ruined, and the enterprise rendered non-productive through mismanagement consequent on mandarin interference. If foreign syndicates or companies obtain a concession to make and subsequently to work them, the railways may pay handsomely and also benefit the country through which they pass; but all undertakings of the kind, if built with native capital and controlled by officials, must in the very nature of things prove financial failures. There can be no genuine progress in China under the Chinese flag. Projects for the development of the resources of the country, for the provision of suitable means of intercommunication, and for the amelioration of the condition of the people are foredoomed to collapse through the influence of the great squeeze system. It will be well for those sanguine persons who dream that the recent disasters in arms sustained by China will have an educational effect on the Peking Government to bear in mind the short memory the Chinese carry for reverses, the intensity of the national conceit that will not admit a defeat, and the unimpressible nature of the unwieldy empire, so little sensitive as a whole to reverse or disaster. Material progress in China will be governed by the necessities of the hour, and where necessity does not continue to press there will be certain and inevitable retrogression. The more widely this fact is recognised the less disappointment will be felt by and by when the strain of the war and the momentary fear of some of the Treaty Powers has relaxed. The Chinese Government will learn little or nothing from their recent reverses unless it be a conviction that they must buy more

ships and guns; they will altogether fail to take to heart the real lessons of the war and endeavour to reform the administration.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION AND THE PERCENTAGE PRINCIPLE.

(29th August.)

There seems after all to be some doubt whether the percentage principle of levying the military contribution will prove uniformly satisfactory. At Ceylon the present payment amounts to about seven per cent. and one of the local papers declares that there will be a revolution before they will consent "to be plundered" to the extent of 17½ per cent. We have already shown that in Hongkong it would be inequitable to levy the percentage on the whole of our revenue, and that municipal revenue ought to be exempt. A somewhat similar argument is used at Ceylon. A tax is levied in that colony on the food supply, the paddy tax, and it is urged that it would be unfair to make that portion of the revenue contribute to the military mulct, seeing that the other Crown Colonies are exempt from taxation on food. It seems impossible to arrange any system of levying the military contribution which shall be absolutely equal in its incidence on the various colonies unless allowances are made in each case according to the circumstances of the particular colony. Seeing that there is not uniformity of taxation in the colonies adjustments must be made before levying a uniform percentage on the revenue as for Imperial purposes. In Hongkong at least one-fifth of our gross revenue should be exempted from the mulct, on the ground of its being municipal revenue required to meet municipal expenditure.

The question is also complicated by the introduction of extra charges for barrack services, a point to which reference has already been made in this column. We revert to it again for the purpose of drawing attention to a new development which has taken place at Singapore. Mr. HUTTENBACH, a member of the Straits Legislative Council, has given notice of his intention to move a resolution to the effect that the colony shall offer to pay 20 per cent. of its revenue in full discharge of its liabilities to the Imperial Government, instead of 17½ per cent. for the garrison with an indeterminate liability for barrack services, fortifications, etc. We have not the exact terms of the resolution before us, as there is a hiatus in our Singapore files, but from the references made to it in issues subsequent to that in which it seems to have been published we gather that the above is its purport. The proposal appears to have been variously received. The *Straits Times*, we infer, has given it support, but the issue containing the article has not yet come to hand. In a subsequent issue of that paper one correspondent strongly opposes the idea, saying:—"To offer in perpetuity twenty per cent. of our gross income as our subscription to the cost of the defence of the colony is one of the rashest projects that we have yet heard. We may have no troops stationed here at all, we may have a revenue treble that of the current year, but our unhappy successors will have to disburden themselves of a fifth of their income. The colony would never be willing to pledge itself to such an unknown quantity. It would be a move made in the dark. The proposed offer exceeds in generosity anything that the Colonial Office would ever think or hope of extorting." Another correspondent, writing from the

opposite point of view, says:—"The Colonial Office now dislikes wrangling on 'the colonial contribution towards garrison outlay, but does not realise that further wrangling will be the inseparable accompaniment of further forced contributions towards outlay on barracks and military accommodations. The moment this is grasped, the advantage of Messrs. HUTTENBACH and BROWN's proposal for a 20 per cent. contribution in satisfaction of all military claims whatever upon the colony becomes evident. That proposal will not please extremists on either side, but moderate people will hail its adoption with satisfaction as a working compromise that would close an irritating and wearisome controversy." The *Free Press* opposes the proposal in toto, and makes the statement, on authority, that "The Colonial Office, notwithstanding Lord RIPON's despatch, were in May inclined to fix a percentage inclusive of all charges, and the terms named by Lord RIPON are to be merely construed as an afterthought, maintaining a leverage against the colony to be availed of should opportunity offer." Our contemporary further refers to Mr. HUTTENBACH's action as "his unjustifiable effort to chuck the colony's money needlessly out of the window." We must confess that it strikes us somewhat in the same light. The matter comes home to us, because, if twenty per cent. is agreed upon as regards the Straits, then twenty per cent. will be demanded from Hongkong. We trust the Hongkong Legislative Council will hold fast to the principle that the 17½ per cent. already proposed should cover all charges whatsoever and that the percentage should be levied only after a fair deduction has been made from the revenue to cover municipal charges.

BIMETALLISM AND SILVER INFLATION.

The *Times* says that "the United States would be the first to take an advantage should England be foolish enough to enter into an international monetary agreement," and that "America is the only great country which would really gain by it." The *San Francisco Chronicle* in a brief note joins issue with the *Times* and says that the statement of the latter "is so preposterously false that it is scarcely worth discussing." Germany has, in the most unequivocal manner, signified her desire for an international arrangement and France is also in favour of bringing about such a result. "These nations would not occupy the attitude they do if they did not expect to benefit by the rehabilitation of silver." The *Times* has always discussed the monetary subject from a standpoint of ignorance and selfishness, but it never displayed the first of these qualities more thoroughly than when it said, as it did in the article we quote from, that in the event of an international agreement we should try to "dispose of our silver for gold. If the world agreed to recognize silver and gold as money metals on a fixed ratio what would be the object of struggling for gold? Silver would be just as good as gold, therefore the incentive to grab the latter would cease. The *Times* is evidently in the second childhood stage." Both on the one side and the other in this dispute the true meaning of bimetallism appears to be lost sight of and attention to be directed solely to the attempt to artificially raise the value of silver. America would have no object in trying to dispose of her silver for gold unless the former were over-valued, because if silver

were just as good as gold "the incentive to grab the latter would cease." But if we take an extreme case and suppose that a ratio of two to one were decided upon would not every state and every individual try to grab all the gold possible by exchanging silver on such favourable terms, well knowing that the opportunity could not last? The tendency would be the same under any system of over-valuation, in proportion to the degree of over-valuation. True bimetallism is not concerned with raising the value of one metal or lowering the value of another, its only object being to secure an adequate supply of the circulating medium and a stable basis of exchange. When bimetallism was in practical operation the legal ratio corresponded to the commercial ratio between the precious metals. The silver inflationists in their present agitation do not propose to take the commercial ratio as the legal ratio, but advocate that by a stroke of legislation the value of silver in relation to gold should be doubled. That would be an act of dishonesty which would shake the world's credit any do ten times the injury to trade that was done by the demonetization of silver. Bimetallists, if their cause is ever to succeed, must be content to take the commercial ratio. It may be that the remonetisation of silver would raise its value in proportion to gold; that is what would probably happen; and to meet it readjustments of the legal ratio might from time to time be required. In this way the old ratio of fifteen and a half to one might in time again be reached, but as the decline of silver has been gradual so must its recovery, if it ever takes place, be gradual also. At some future time perhaps a creditor may be as willing as he was formerly to accept five dollars in discharge of a debt of one pound, but to compel him by law to do so forthwith would be an act of robbery. It might be very pleasant for residents in the East to wake up some morning and find their two shilling dollars worth four shillings each, but it is a dream that will not be realised.

THE PROGRESS OF THE JAPANESE ARMY IN FORMOSA.

(3rd September.)

In a few days from now we may expect to hear that LIU YUNG-FU, the redoubtable Black Flag General now holding the south of Formosa, has been crushed and that the occupation of the island by the Japanese has been completed. Our correspondent with the Japanese army telegraphs that Changhwa was captured on the 28th ult. From that town to Tainan-fu the distance is about sixty miles, over a plain favourable to infantry and cavalry manœuvres. If the Japanese advanced at the rate of ten miles a day they should arrive at Tainan-fu on the 4th or 5th instant. They might, however, possibly remain at Changhwa for a few days to complete their preparations for the march. In any case we may anticipate that the fighting will be concluded well within the present month and that the whole of the island will then be under Japanese jurisdiction. It seems unlikely that any further stand will be made by the Chinese until the attack on Tainan-fu is commenced, and the stand there is likely to be a very short one. LIU has a firm hold on his men and appears to have conducted himself well, restraining his troops from outrage and violence, but it is unlikely that he will be able to offer any serious resistance to the Japanese, though he may possibly do better than we expect. It is not very clear whether there has been

any meeting between Black Flag forces and the Japanese as yet. In our yesterday's issue we reproduced accounts from the Japan papers of the fighting that took place at the beginning of last month between the Japanese advancing from the north and the insurgents, and it is stated that of the latter a large proportion were regular Chinese troops, a circumstance which, in the opinion of the Japanese correspondents, accounts for the promptitude with which they took to their heels. By the regular Chinese troops we understand the remains of the Chinese army, independent of Liu's command, to be meant. At Hsin-pu the insurgents had a hundred and fifty killed, while the casualties on the Japanese side were three killed and six wounded. The hills to the southward were easily cleared, and it was expected that the insurgents would not rally again until they reached Changhwa or Tainan-fu. According to our Anping correspondent's letter of the 29th August, Black Flags were being hurried to the front and the "Ever Victorious" Liu was contemplating a move northwards. By that time, however, Changhwa had fallen and the probabilities seem to be rather against any of the Black Flags having arrived in time to take part in the defence. The resistance offered may have been desperate, but does not seem to have been directed with any intelligence, for while the Chinese lost six hundred killed the Japanese loss was only nine. Whether the main body of the Black Flags will be able to do any better than their companions in arms remains to be seen, but whatever gallantry they may display there can be no doubt as to the ultimate result. The foreigners at Anping not unnaturally regard the situation with some trepidation. So far the Black Flags have given little cause for complaint, but when they are defeated in the field and fall back on Anping in disorder there will be an end of discipline and the lives and property of foreigners will be in serious danger unless adequate protection is afforded by gunboats. But perhaps the catastrophe may not happen. Liu is a fighting man, but in view of the hopelessness of his position he may possibly be prepared to make an honourable surrender, which the Japanese would no doubt be willing to accept.

REVIEW.

An Australian in China. Being the Narrative of a quiet Journey across China to British Burma. By G. E. MORRISON, M.B., C.M. Edin., F.R.G.S. London: Horace Cox. 1895. ONE of the most entertaining books of travel it has been our fortune to read for a long time past. Dr. Morrison is endowed with a large fund of humour and infects the reader with his own high spirits. He made his journey across China for no special object, commercial, political, or philanthropic, but out of pure love of adventure and travel. The frontispiece represents him in the centre of his attendant coolies, a finely made man of youthful appearance. A *propos* of this he tells us:—

"In China longevity is the highest of the five grades of felicity. Triumphant arches are erected all over the kingdom in honour of those who have attained the patriarchal age which among us seems only to be assured to those who partake in sufficient quantity of certain fruits and pills. Age when not known is guessed by the length of the beard, which is never allowed to grow till the thirty-second year. Now it happens that I am clean-shaven, and, as it is a well-known fact that the face of the European is an enigma to the Oriental, just as the face of the Chinaman is an inscrutable mystery to most of us, I have often been amused by the varying estimates of my age advanced by curious bystanders. It has been estimated as low as twelve—'look at the foreigner,' they said, 'there's

a fine fat boy!'—and never higher than twenty-two. But it is not only in China that a youthful appearance has hampered me in my walk through life.

"I remember that on one occasion, some years ago, I obliged a medical friend by taking his practice while he went away for a few days to be married. It was in a semi-barbarian village named Portee, in a forgotten remnant of Scotland called the Isle of Skye. The time was winter. The first case I was called to was that of a bashful matron, the baker's wife, who had lately given birth to her tenth child. I entered the room cheerfully. She looked me over critically, and then greatly disconcerted me by remarking that, 'She was gay thankful' to the Lord, that it was 'a' by afore I cam', as she had nae wush to be meddled wi' by a laddie o' nineteen.' Yet I was two years older than the doctor who had attended her."

Dr. Morrison seems to have thoroughly enjoyed his journey. He had no unpleasant *contretemps* on the way, and got on excellently with the Chinese, for whom he appears to have conceived quite a tender regard, while from the friendly treatment he everywhere received it would seem that he must have created a favourable impression on them. Probably his playfulness amused them, and you can do almost anything with a Chinaman if you can amuse him. Dr. Morrison had no knowledge of the Chinese language and took no interpreter with him, so that his means of communication were limited to a few simple words for every day use that had been taught him by friends and a phrase book that he carried with him. "What few words of Chinese I knew," he says, "were rarely intelligible; but, as Mrs. General Baynes, when staying at Boulogne, found Hindostani to be of great help in speaking French, so did I discover that English was of great assistance to me in conversing in Chinese. Remonstrance was thus made much more effective. Whenever I was in a difficulty, or the crowd too obtrusive, I had only to say a few grave sentences in English, and I was master of the situation." This practical application of the axiom that language is given to conceal thought seems to have answered admirably. Dr. Morrison, after leaving the boat which took him up the Yangtze from Ichang, effected his land journey by making contracts with the coolie hongs to deliver him within a specified time at specified points, and in negotiating the contracts he generally had the assistance of friendly missionaries, whom he found at stations dotted along his route. Of the missionaries personally he seems to have formed, for the most part, a very high opinion, but of the value of their work and its results his estimate is correspondingly low. He gives some attention to the opium question, and his testimony is the same as that of all other travellers, namely, that there is no visible evidence of injury done to the people by the consumption of the drug. As to the sincerity of China's alleged desire to suppress the practice of opium smoking, Dr. Morrison says edicts are occasionally issued, but "they are drawn up by Chinese philanthropists—over a quiet pipe of opium, signed by opium-smoking officials, whose revenues are derived from the poppy, and posted near fields of poppy by the opium-smoking magistrates who own them." In some countries words represent facts, but that is never the case in China.

The entire journey from Shanghai to Bhamo cost less than £20 sterling, including the cost of Chinese outfit, and Dr. Morrison estimates that had he travelled economically the journey need not have cost him more than £14. As already remarked, he formed a favourable opinion of the Chinese and he says, "I cannot speak more highly of the pleasure of my journey than to declare that I felt greater regret when it was finished than I ever felt on leaving any other country." Of the women he says:—"I have seen girls in China who would be considered beautiful in any capital in Europe. The attractiveness of the Japanese lady has been the theme of many writers, but, speaking as an impartial observer who has been both in Japan and China, I have never been able to come to any other decision than that in every feature the Chinese woman is superior to her Japanese sister. She is head and shoulders above the Japanese; she is more intellectual, or

rather, she is more capable of intellectual development; she is incomparably more chaste and modest. She is prettier, sweeter, and more trustworthy than the mis-shapen, cackling little dot with black teeth that we are asked to admire as Japanese beauty." Cackling little dots with black teeth, by the way, are not often seen in Japan now. But with all his friendly feeling towards the Chinese our author holds that there is no room for them in Australia. His views on this point are expressed as follows:—

"We cannot compete with Chinese; we cannot intermix or marry with them; they are aliens in language, thought, and customs; they are working animals of low grade but great vitality. The Chinese is temperate, frugal, hard-working, and law-evading, if not law-abiding—we all acknowledge that. He can outwork an Englishman, and starve him out of the country—no one can deny that. To compete successfully with a Chinaman, the artisan or labourer of our own flesh and blood would require to be degraded into a mere mechanical beast of labour, unable to support wife or family, toiling seven days in the week, with no amusements, enjoyments, or comforts of any kind, no interest in the country, contributing no share towards the expense of government, living on food that he would now reject with loathing, crowded with his fellows ten or fifteen in a room that he would not now live in alone, except with repugnance. Admitted freely into Australia, the Chinese would starve out the Englishman, in accordance with the law of currency—that of two currencies in a country the baser will always supplant the better."

The following extracts from the chapter headed "Gold, Banks, and Telegraphs in Yunnan" are interesting and of practical value, in view of the reported intention of the Chinese to develop the mineral resources of Yunnan:—

"Yunnan city is the great gold emporium of China, for most of the gold found in China comes from the province of which it is the capital. When a rich Chinaman returns from Yunnan to another province, or is summoned on a visit to the Emperor at Peking, he carries his money in gold, not silver. Gold leaf sent from Yunnan gilds the gods of Tibet and the temples and pagodas of Indo-China. No caravan returns to Burma from Western China whose spare silver has not been changed into gold leaf. In the Arracan Temple in Mandalay, as in the Shway-dagon Pagoda in Rangoon, you see the gold leaf that Yunnan produces, and in the future will produce in infinitely greater quantities.

"Gold comes chiefly from the mines of Talang, eighteen days journey by land S.W. from Yunnan city, on the confines of the district which produces the famous Puerh tea. The yield must be a rich one despite the ineffective appliances that are employed in its extraction. Gold has always been abundant in this province; at the time of Marco Polo's visit it was so abundant that its value in relation to silver was only as one to six.

When gold is worth in Shanghai 35 times its weight in silver, it may be bought in Yunnan city or Talin for from 25 to 27.5 times its weight in silver, and in quantities up to hundreds of ounces. To remit silver by telegraphic transfer from Shanghai or Hongkong to Yunnan city costs six per cent., and either of the two leading banks in the city will negotiate the transfer from their agents at the seaports of any amount up to 10,000 ounces of silver in a single transaction. The gold can always be readily sold in Shanghai or Hongkong, and the only risk is in the carriage of the gold from the island city to the seaport. So far as I could learn, no gold thus sent has gone astray. It is carried overland by the fastest trade route—that through Mungtze to Laokai—and thence by boat down stream to Hanoi in Tonkin, from which port it is sent by registered post to Saigon and Hongkong. Here then is a venture open to all, with excitement sufficient for the most *blasé* speculator. Ample profits are made by the dealer. For instance, a large quantity of gold was purchased in Yunnan city on the 21st January, 1894, at 23.2, its value in Shanghai on the same date being 30.9; but on the date that the gold arrived in Shanghai its value had risen to 35, at which price it was sold. At the time of my visit gold was 25.5 to 27 in Yunnan, and 35 in Shanghai,

and I have since learnt that, while gold has become cheaper in the province, it has become dearer at the seaport."

"The telegraph in Yunnan is very largely used by the Chinese, especially by the bankers and officials. By telegraph you can remit, as I have said, through the Chinese banks, telegraphic transfers to the value of thousands of taels in single transactions. It is principally the backs and the Government who make use of the telegraph and their communications are sent by private code. Telegrams from Yunnan to Shanghai cost twenty-two tael cents (at the present value of the tael this is equal to sixpence) for each Chinese character; but each word in any other language is charged double, that is, forty-four cents. From Yunnan to Talifu is a distance of 307 miles. The native banker in the capital will remit for you by wire to his agent in Tali the sum of 1,000 taels, for a charge of eight taels, exclusive of the cost of the telegram, and, as the value of silver in Tali is one per cent. higher than it is in Yunnan, the traveller can send his money by wire with perfect safety, and lose nothing in the remittance, not even the cost of the telegram."

Dr. Morrison's book is an excellent one, with not a dull page in it, though some readers may possibly find his remarks on missionaries and opium a little too extended, and occasionally his humour degenerates into a flippant sarcasm that is not altogether pleasant. That, however, is a very trifling blemish. We can cordially recommend "An Australian in China."

THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

CAPTURE OF CHANG-HWA.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
TAIPEH, 1st September, 7.20 p.m.

On the 28th August Chang-hwa, the principal inland city of Formosa, was taken after a severe battle.

The Chinese lost six hundred, the Japanese nine.

[FROM OUR ANPING CORRESPONDENT.]

Anping, 29th August.

A "resident in Anping" calmly states, in your issue of the 20th inst., that the Japanese army was within fifteen miles of the settlement; and that owing to a "rough and hilly country" it would be four or five days before it could reach this place. It is a pity that such rubbish should be sent to the newspapers. As a matter of fact the Japanese are only now reported to be marching on Chang Hwa, a distance of over sixty miles from this. The road instead of being "rough and hilly" is over a vast plain, absolutely flat and well adapted to infantry or cavalry manoeuvres. Various rumours are current as to the result of a severe engagement north of Chang Hwa, but it is generally believed that the Japanese were victorious, and that this important city has probably ere this fallen into their hands. Black Flags are being hurried to the front, and the "Ever Victorious" Liu is reported to be contemplating a move northwards.

There is a very uneasy feeling in Tainanfoo owing to the great pressure being brought to bear upon the people, in order to raise funds for the last effort.

The steamer *Ask* is running in opposition to the Douglas line, causing a collapse in freights, to the joy of the native, who now gets a ride across the channel for a dollar.

Matters in the settlement are quiet, but it will soon be time, in the absence of naval protection, to consider "ways and means" as the Japanese approach, driving the retreating army in this direction.

[FROM JAPAN PAPERS.]

Detailed accounts of the operations which for a second time were undertaken for clearing the Hakka villages of the insurgents have just been received in Tokyo. The Naito detachment left Haishankow on the 29th July and advanced in the direction of Shin-chuh by the right, namely, the seaward side, of the railway. The Yamane detachment moved out of Takoham on the 31st July, and marched along by the left of the railway to Hsin-pu, a flourishing village about three miles east of Shin-chuh. The Naito detachment seems to have met with little opposition,

but the Yamane detachment had several hard village fights. The detachment marched in two columns, the right, about 1,500 strong, under Major-General Yamane, and the left, about 800 strong, under Major Bojo. The left column had to advance over hills and valleys, fighting all the while with most determined parties of insurgents who opened fire from rifle pits on the hills. About 1.30 p.m. the two columns came in sight of Yung-tan-pe, a small town containing from 400 to 500 houses. The town itself had been burned on the former occasion, and the insurgents had, consequently, taken up their positions on the hillsides in the vicinity. They were attacked from three directions, and in the course of about an hour were put to rout, having sustained a heavy loss. That night the detachment bivouacked in the neighbourhood of Dolaken. The number of the enemy killed that day was over 100, the loss on the Japanese side being 1 killed and 4 wounded.

On the 1st August toward evening the Yamane detachment arrived in the vicinity of Hsin-pu, after having driven several bodies of the enemy before them on the way there. The heat was intense, and the march of the troops over hill and dale is said to have been very trying, several men dropping out of the ranks. When the head of the column reached Hsin-pu, the gates of the town were all closed. A private of the first class climbed over one of the gates and opened it, but no sooner had he achieved this feat than he was shot dead by an insurgent firing from a house near by. Two of his comrades who rushed in to rescue his body were also wounded, so that they had to return without attaining their object. A body of Japanese troops who had taken up a position on an eminence in the vicinity poured a volley into the town. But night drawing near the attack on the place was deferred till the following day, and the detachment, retiring a little distance, encamped in the open, as on the preceding night.

On the 2nd August a battery planted on high ground at a suitable distance from the town opened fire at about 9 a.m. and shelled the place, beginning with its eastern extremity. Meanwhile a company of infantry engaged a party of insurgents stationed outside the village. As the cannonade proceeded the insurgents, who had been keeping up a fusillade from the houses, began to fly and make for the mountains in the south, and the greater number of them were shot by the Japanese. At 11.30 a.m. the Yamane detachment was joined by the Naito detachment, which at once began to shell the place from the opposite direction. A little past noon the cannonading ceased and two parties of infantry were ordered to enter the town. The gates had to be broken down, and when the Japanese got inside they were greeted with a shower of bullets from the houses, and three men were wounded. The insurgents being determined to hold the place to the last, the Japanese set fire to some houses, when about fifty Chinese rushed out and were either shot or cut down by the Imperial troops. It was 4 p.m. before the place was entirely occupied by the Japanese. The number of insurgents who took part in its defence is put at 600, of whom at least 150 were killed. The casualties on the Japanese side were 3 killed and 6 wounded. In one of the houses was discovered the salted head of the brave soldier who had been killed on the preceding day immediately after opening one of the gates. It was buried with ceremony. Hsin-pu is a small town of about 400 brick houses, very neat in appearance. The Japanese correspondents were much struck by the evident marks of comparative opulence in a small mountain town like this.

While the operation of clearing the district of the insurgents was going forward, H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, Commander of the Imperial Guards, and his staff, escorted by a body of troops, advanced to Shin-chuh, leaving Taipei on the 29th and reaching the above mentioned place on the 31st July. On His Highness's arrival at the station he was welcomed by about 100 of the principal citizens of Shin-chuh, clad in their finest clothing and carrying several Japanese flags. Several of them had afterward the honour of being presented to the Prince at headquarters. For a few days after his arrival at the place Prince Kitashirakawa is said to have been slightly indisposed, but by the date of the

letter from which we are quoting—namely, the 5th July—he had completely recovered and was personally superintending the affairs of the army under his command.

Shin-chuh is said to be a very prosperous commercial centre, being in this respect second only to Taipeh-fu in the north of the island. According to the investigations conducted by the officials of the civil government of the place, the population is put at 5,932, consisting of 3,360 males and 2,572 females. The gallant defence of the place by the Sakai battalion against the repeated attacks of the insurgents seems to have inspired the inhabitants with a wholesome sense of security and confidence under Japanese protection. The streets are said to be kept clean, and perfect order maintained in the place, under the energetic efforts of Mr. Matsumura, the head of the civil administration. The place has some interesting historical associations for the Japanese, for it is believed that it was in this vicinity that Koxinga—the celebrated Japano-Chinese who upheld the cause of the fallen Ming dynasty—first landed in Formosa. It is stated that a family living by the side of a shrine dedicated to him claims descent from him.

The latest letters from Formosa, dated the 9th August, describe the march of the Imperial Guards southward of Shin-chuh. The ranges of hills to the south of that prefectural town as far as Tsiempi-shan had been guarded by a large force of insurgents, who made repeated though unsuccessful attempts to recover the possession of the place. Of these hills, Tsiempi-shan is said to be a position of great strategical importance, a small body of determined men being sufficient to hold in check a large army. The villages between Shin-chuh and Taipeifu having been cleared of the armed aborigines who had given endless trouble to scouting parties and provision trains, Prince Kitashirakawa thought it safe to push southward and dislodge the insurgents from the strategical positions on the hills alluded to above. But previous to a general attack on these strongholds, it was advisable to drive the enemy from the hills to the east of Shin-chuh. Accordingly, Major-General Yamane's detachment, which had been staying at Hsin-pu, was ordered to push forward to Peipu on the 6th August, to attack the insurgents in the vicinity of Sinsienling the following day, and, thus advancing on the right flank of the enemy, take part in the general attack which was fixed for the 8th August. At the same time Major Isaki was instructed to leave Shin-chuh on the 6th at the head of his battalion and maintain communication between that place and the Yamane detachment. These orders were executed without any hitch, and everything was ready for a general advance at the appointed date.

On the night of the 7th the artillery were busily engaged in planting batteries in proper positions, and the bulk of the army began to move out of Shin-chuh at 3 a.m. on the 8th. The army was divided into three bodies, the right and left wings and reserves. The right wing, under Major-General Kawamura, consisted of two regiments (minus two companies) of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, mountain artillery (6 pieces, machine guns, and a company of engineers). The left wing, under Colonel Naito, was composed of a regiment (minus a battalion) of infantry, half a squadron of cavalry, mountain artillery, machine guns, and a company of engineers. The reserves consisted of three companies of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, artillery, and medical corps. A company of infantry and a party with machine guns were left at Shin-chuh under the command of Captain Sawasaki. The left wing was to be assisted by the Yamane detachment, which had advanced along the mountains to the east of Shin-chuh, as stated above.

With the dawn of the 8th, fire was opened simultaneously by both wings of the Imperial army, the right wing against the insurgents at Chintoshan and the left against those at Keilanmen. The artillery duel lasted for some time, the insurgents working a number of mountain pieces which had been planted on extremely advantageous positions. Major Mayeda charged at the head of two companies of infantry, and driving before him about 500 insurgents he easily took possession of the stronghold of the enemy's left wings; while a battery, consisting

of two mountain pieces, was captured by 16 men under Sergeant Toyoda, the enemy leaving behind him, besides the two mountain pieces, five dead and a quantity of small arms and ammunition. The forts at Chintoshan having thus easily fallen into Japanese hands, they were at once destroyed, while the barracks and other combustible works were burnt down, the flames extending over two and a half miles.

Meanwhile the Naito detachment took possession of Keilanmen, and the whole army soon advanced to the top of a range of hills opposite Tsiempi-shan, the most formidable barrier to the southward progress of the Japanese forces. There the army bivouacked that night.

On the 9th at 5.30 a.m. an attack was commenced upon the enemy on Tsiempi-shan. The insurgents, who seem to have lost heart from the way in which they had been handled on the preceding day, fled pell-mell in the direction of Miaoli, without offering any resistance worth speaking of. The bulk of the division then pushed on to the village of Chang-kong, while the Kawamura column advanced to the fort of Chang-kong, which lies at a short distance further south. The Yamane detachment took up its quarters at Taofun, the Naito detachment being stationed between that place and Chang-kong village. During the operations of the 8th and 9th two men-of-war bombarded the enemy. Throughout the engagements of the two days the Japanese did not meet with any casualty except the death of a lieutenant; and the loss of the Chinese was only 30 to 40 in killed, which shows the nature of resistance offered by the latter.

It is stated that of the insurgents who held this region, variously estimated at between 1,000 and 4,000, a large proportion were the regular Chinese troops, a circumstance which, in the opinion of the Japanese correspondents, accounts for the promptitude with which they took to their heels. One writer is inclined to think that the volunteers may venture to stay at Miaoli and try once more the chances of war, but that the regulars will not rally until they reach Chang-hua or Taiwan-fu.

The following telegram from Rear-Admiral Tsunoda, Staff Officer, dated Taipeifu, 22nd August, has been received at the Imperial Military Headquarters in Tokyo:—

"On the 22nd August the *Yoshino Kan* returned to Tamsui. She had left Kelung early on the morning of the 13th August, and, cruising off Chang-kong, gave assistance to the troops on shore. On the following day she lowered boats and landed a party at Ta-an. On landing the party met with resistance, but defeating the enemy they burnt the barracks. There were about 1,000 insurgents at Ta-an and Tatiao, but they all fled in the direction of Chang-hua, by way of Geomatao. On the 16th the Kawamura detachment occupied Tong-sian without meeting any resistance. The state of affairs remains unchanged in the vicinity of Miaoli. On the afternoon of the 17th a scouting party came to Ta-an and effected a junction with the fleet. The Imperial Guards Division will occupy Tatiao on the 23rd August and then advance towards Taiwan-fu."—*Japan Mail*.

SUPREME COURT.

2nd September.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FIELDING CLARKE (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS V. CHEUNG KAI'S ESTATE.

In this case the plaintiffs sought to recover \$100,000 from Cheung Yau To and Cheung Yau Pun, executors, and Lan Shi, executrix of the will of Cheung Kai, deceased.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs, and the defendants were represented by Mr. W. V. Drummond and Mr. D. McNeill (instructed by Mr. Denny).

The pleadings were taken as read by consent of his Lordship.

Mr. Francis said this was an action on a bond for breach of suretyship. The Banking Com-

pany was originally known as the Trust and Loan Company, Limited, and advanced money on shares and other securities. At the time the transactions in connection with the case were carried on the plaintiffs carried on business in Hongkong as the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Limited. The defendants in the case were respectively the executors and executrix of the will of Cheung Kai, who died in January, 1894. In August, 1891, Mr. Chantrey Inchbald, manager of the Bank, appointed Cheung Kung Sing, brother of Cheung Kai, compradore of the Bank, and he entered into a letter of agreement, dated August 25th, 1891. He accepted the terms upon which he had been engaged, and undertook to perform the duties that had been specified. The first clause provided for his placing in safe custody all gold, monies, securities, goods, and merchandize, and all other goods placed in his possession, and to account for the same when required. Section C provided for his engagement of the Chinese servants, and Section D was as follows—"I am to be responsible for the payment of and pay and make good all losses (whether or not the amounts thereof exceed the sum of sums respectively secured or undertaken to be paid by me and by the said Cheung Kai by the obligation or bond hereto annexed and dated the 25th of August, 1891) that may happen or accrue to your said Bank through the non-payment or through the purchase of any native Bank notes, bills, drafts, promissory notes, or orders, securities for money, treasure, and bullion purchased or received through me or with my knowledge and consent or through any of the said employees, through or by reason of the default of any Chinese purchaser to or from whom the manager or other official for the time being in charge of your branch in Hongkong may have sold or purchased the same for cash or on credit with my introduction or at my request." Section E provided that he should perform the ordinary duties of compradore according to local custom; and section 5 was—"All entries made in the ordinary course of business in such books of account as may be kept at your branch in Hongkong to record the several transactions, sales, purchases, contracts, agreements, losses, matters and things effected, sustained, or done by your said Bank or by me or any of the said employees, and of any losses or damages resulting therefrom or caused by my neglect, default, or want of skill, or that of any of the said employees, shall be conclusive evidence against and binding upon me both as regards the fact of the same having been entered into, as also of any loss or damage resulting therefrom without further proof thereof." At the foot of the letter Cheung Kai put the following endorsement—"I hereby acknowledge that the above letter of agreement setting forth the terms upon which the above named Cheung Kung Sing has been engaged as compradore by the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Limited, and the duties and liabilities attaching to his office has been translated to me in the Chinese language, and that I understand the purport and meaning of the same. And I hereby declare that I approve of the same letter of agreement and am liable as surety for the said Cheung Kung Sing for the due performance by him and by the above mentioned employees, and of all his and their obligations thereunder and under the annexed bond." The bond, which was in the usual form, was then referred to by counsel and in it Cheung Kung Sing and Cheung Kai were bound in the sum of \$100,000, to be paid to the obligees. To terminate the agreement six months' notice was to be given on either side. The defendants claimed to have given six months' notice terminating the engagement on the 22nd September, 1894; the plaintiffs denied that legal notice had been given, and if the notice was legal the proceedings were commenced before the expiration of the notice. In addition to the agreement and bond Cheung Kung Sing also executed a mortgage on certain leasehold properties and deposited the title deeds with the plaintiff Bank. The compradore entered upon his duties on the 1st August, 1891, and no trouble arose until towards the end of March or the beginning of April, 1892. In February or March, 1892, the Bank purchased from four Chinese banks in Hongkong, through the compradore (as was admitted by the pleadings), eleven bills of

exchange on Shanghai, and they amounted in the whole to Tls. 190,000. On 27th March in that year, while some of those bills were still unrepresented, or at least not due and payable, the compradore of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank vanished from Hongkong, and the immediate result was that those four Chinese banks closed their doors and ceased to do business. The immediate result in Shanghai was that two banks there on which the whole of the eleven bills had been drawn also closed their doors and failed. It was at once intimated by wire to Hongkong that these bills would not be paid. The vanishing act of the compradore became public on Sunday, March 27th, and the fact was immediately reported to Mr. S. L. Darby, the accountant, and Mr. C. Inchbald, the manager, of the plaintiff Bank. Both went to the bank premises and saw Cheung Kung Sing and Cheung Kai, and an immediate effort was made by Cheung Kung Sing to get as much money as possible from the people who had guaranteed these bills of exchange. He succeeded in the course of that day and the following morning in getting together all sorts of promissory notes to the tune of \$71,000 face value as far as was known. On March 30th the compradore was debited with the whole of the amount of the bills that were dishonoured and overdue. The Bank opened no account with the drawers or with their guarantors, and no account was kept of the sureties or securities that the compradore brought in. They were nearly all Chinese documents; the Bank simply had his statements as to what they were worth and put them in safe custody. Whatever amounts were brought in were credited to his account as the person who was bound under the bond, to pay all drafts as they fell due. Of course the general liability of the compradore of a Bank with reference to the Chinese customers was ordinarily spoken of as a surety or guarantor; and under this agreement and bond Cheung Kung Sing was the person primarily liable. The agreement did not say he shall pay in default, but that he shall on the days when these documents fall due pay or make them good, so he was simply debited with the total amount as they fell due. The account against him was opened in the ordinary course, and quarterly interest, in accordance with the Bank custom here, was charged on the quarterly balances of that account. A copy of the account was furnished to Cheung Kai's executors before September 1894, and formal notice was given to them. The account was made up from the books as they then stood.

The Chief Justice—As I understand, the account was opened as if the compradore was a customer at the Bank?

Mr. Francis—Practically as a person indebted to the Bank; as if he was a customer indebted to the Bank.

Counsel then proceeded to analyse the account. The primary charge was the amount of eleven bills worth Tls. 190,000 at an exchange of 72, which amounted to \$263,888.89. These bills cost in actual cash disbursed here \$261,606, the difference between these amounts being \$2,282.89. If this were an action on a bill of exchange that amount would be described as re-exchange, and if counsel understood rightly, that was the amount in dispute. In the pleadings defendants admitted that the bills were purchased by the Bank, that they paid \$261,606 for them, that they were purchased through the compradore, and that they were dishonoured. The charge of \$2,282 was justified in this way. If the bills had been paid on presentation in Shanghai they would have realised Tls. 190,000, and that amount would have been brought back to Hongkong at 72. In addition to the eleven bills one of the Banks that failed had given the plaintiff Bank a promissory note and obtained \$10,000 payable on demand, and for this amount the compradore was primarily liable under his bond. The demand for payment was made on March 27th, when the disaster occurred, and the money was not paid. The promissory note was at six per cent., which gave a total of \$10,052.60. The compradore had been credited with \$148,690.19, which sum he had paid into the Bank after obtaining it by sales of promissory notes and odds and ends. The cash paid for bills was \$261,206, and for the promissory notes \$10,062.60, making a total liability, apart from interest, cost of process, and legal expenses, of

\$148,690.19, leaving a balance due from the compradore to the Bank of \$122,968.41. Therefore the position of the plaintiffs was that even if his Lordship decided against them on the question of profits, interest, and expenses, the compradore was still indebted to the Bank in the sum of \$122,968, of which Cheung Kai was liable under his bond for \$100,000. Counsel then referred to the details of the account, and among them was the sum of \$112.50 paid on a number of Punjom shares, and the sum of \$1,275 paid to the Him Loong firm on certain promissory notes.

His Lordship—The Him Loong are the pork people, are not they?

Mr. Francis—Yes, the pork people. (Laughter.)

Proceeding Mr. Francis said there was a sum of \$120 incurred in legal expenses in reference to a promissory note given by a Chinese mandarin at Swatow for \$14,000. This was one of those so called securities swept up on the night of March 20th. Lo Hok Pang was guarantor on several bills of exchange, and proceedings were taken in Canton with a view to getting something from him, and \$3,828.29 was realised on his property in Canton. The total amount of the disbursements was \$7,044.40, and the total amount of the account was \$310,234.57. The total amount on the credit side was \$148,690.19, and the balance due was \$161,544.38, so that amount was outside the claim against Cheung Kung Sing. As Counsel understood from the pleadings the defendants did not dispute the compradore's liability or the liability of Cheung Kai prior to May 31st, 1892. On the face of the bond the compradore's liability was abundantly clear. He was to make good all Chinese bills and documents purchased through him. According to the defendants they served the plaintiff Bank with a six months' notice, which freed him from all future liability. They also state that on or about 30th May the plaintiff Bank so dealt with Kan Sing Toi as to release Cheung Kung Sing, the principal. Their pleadings seemed to suggest that the Bank was paid by Kan Sing Toi the overdue amounts on these transactions, and that time was given to Cheung Kung Sing; but they did not allege that he was given time by any binding contract. They alleged that the plaintiff Bank released Cheung Kai from all liability by debiting the account of Kan Sing Toi with the sum of \$97,223, thus showing the intention to make Kan Sing Toi responsible for the payment of the deficiency on the bills, and to substitute Kan Sing Toi for Cheung Kung Sing or Cheung Kai. Counsel submitted it was clear law that the taking of an additional security was no discharge unless it had the effect of entirely releasing the one and substituting the other for security. Unless there was a binding contract to give time there was no releasing of the security. It was equally clear law that if the Bank dealt in any way with the other principal so as to prejudice the position of the surety he might be released so far as that prejudice extended.

The facts of the case were then related by counsel. Kan Sing Toi was a partner in the Kwong Fuk firm, one of the Banks who were the drawers of some of these bills. It was indisputable that he was manager and partner in the firm, and he was also a partner in the Wong Tung Yau. He was the person who actually negotiated the bills with the Bank through Cheung Kung Sing; therefore the former was primarily responsible to the Bank and primarily liable to Cheung Kung Sing. The name of Cheung Kung Sing was a party on the face of all these bills, and that was the reason why counsel said that Kan Sing Toi was liable to the Bank as well as to Cheung Kung Sing. On Sunday, March 27th, Kan Sing Toi was present in the Bank and saw Mr. Darby, Mr. Inchbald, and Cheung Kung Sing, and by letter he authorised the Bank to charge certain shares of his, which they then held in respect of his liability, on the Kwong Fuk Bank bills. The position at that time between Kan Sing Toi and the Bank was precisely as the defendants had set out in the pleadings. Kan Sing Toi had obtained advances of \$600,000 or so on securities, and he had two accounts opened with them. One advance he had obtained at six per cent. and another at seven per cent. Shortly prior to 31st May the two accounts were carried into one ac-

count. On or about 31st May he appeared to be indebted to the Bank in the sum of \$600,000, and his securities were worth \$500,000, so that on the face of his securities he was indebted to the Bank in the sum of \$100,000, and not, as was alleged by the defendants in their answer, considerably in credit, because their allegation was that on 31st May when the \$97,000 was debited he was in funds, and that his securities showed such a large margin that the \$97,000 might be looked upon as paid off. His exact indebtedness was \$601,913.46. On March 27th he agreed that the amount of the Kwong Fuk bills should be charged against his account, and he refused to agree to his account being debited to the amount of the Wong Tung Yau bills, because he said the Wong Tung Yau had not closed its doors, as one of the parties was supposed to be very wealthy, and able to meet all liabilities. Nothing was done at that date with his account. Afterwards the Wong Tung Yau closed its doors and they were unable to pay their drafts, and the supposed wealthy partner turned out to be practically useless for the purpose of payment. About April 11th Kan Sing Toi found himself in such serious difficulties that he left the colony altogether. A receiving order was made against him on April 27th, 1892, and he was adjudicated a bankrupt on July 25th the same year. After he had vanished Cheung Kung Sing was very anxious that his accounts should be debited with the total amount due from the two firms he belonged to. In consequence of the bankruptcy proceedings Mr. Inchbald thought it desirable that his accounts should be debited with this amount. According to bank law, unless there is a special agreement to the contrary, any dealings to the credit of Kan Sing Toi would be applicable, entry or no entry, agreement or no agreement, towards payment of any liabilities he might owe to the Bank. So then when on May 31st his account was debited with the sum of \$97,000 the fact of making entry in this account did not add in the least to his liabilities, and did not alter or improve the Bank's rights. As a matter of fact, however, the entry was a mere book-keeping entry having no meaning at all; there was no agreement with Kan Sing Toi because he was absent from the colony. So far as Cheung Kung Sing is concerned this entry was made at his request in writing, he specially agreeing that he would make no alteration whatever in his position or in his liability to the Bank. On May 31st he wrote a letter to the manager of the Bank asking to be released from his responsibility as compradore. On June 3rd he got a little nervous and was afraid he had made himself liable for the whole of Kan Sing Toi's liabilities, and wrote saying that his position towards the Bank remained the same as if no debit entry had been made in the books, and he also agreed to make good any deficiency not exceeding \$97,223 which there might be in the account of Kan Sing Toi after the release of the securities which the Bank could dispose of in any way without reference to him. He also agreed to make good the deficiency shown by the bank books with reference to the bills, such payment to relieve him of his guarantee on Kan Sing Toi's account. The plaintiffs submitted that there was no agreement there whatever to give time. He had given the Bank power to realise the securities at any moment, and he did not bind them to watch until there was a favourable turn of the market before realising. He said "I make good to the Bank the amount due on the bills, and I shall be released at once from any guarantee with reference to Kan Sing Toi's account." There was in the letters no implied agreement to give time to the compradore; on the other hand there were expressed provisions which showed that he had no intention to ask for time, and that the Bank had no intention to give him time. The Bank reserved their full liberty to realise the securities whenever they thought fit, and they did not bind themselves in any way to hold back their claim against him until they could realise a profit on these particular securities. Kan Sing Toi was liable for \$97,000 as one of the partners, and his securities were liable, according to banking law, to make good that same amount. Even if there had been a contract with Kan Sing Toi there was nothing which in the least degree

prejudiced Cheung Kung Sing. The security was not, supposing there was one at all, a substituted security, but an additional security.

At the conclusion of Counsel's address his Lordship pointed to his wig, which he had taken off, and said to the barristers, "You can always take these things off if you will feel more comfortable." The wigs were at once laid on the table.

Mr. S. L. Darby was called and spoke to the various transactions referred to by Mr. Francis.

At four o'clock Mr. Francis said "Will it be convenient for your Lordship to adjourn now?"

His Lordship—I will sit for half an hour more if—

Mr. Francis—But my Lord, the case cannot be finished to-day.

His Lordship—Well, let me see. Half past ten to one; two to four—four and a half hours.

Mr. Drummond—My lord, I hope you will consider the thermometer as well.

His Lordship—Yes, I will. I always like to sit five hours a day when there is a long case; but I will adjourn now. We will meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Court then adjourned.

29th August.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE.)

WESSEL v. CARLOWITZ AND CO.

F. Wessel brought an action against Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. to recover \$1,000 for wrongful dismissal and breach of contract.

Mr. Holmes appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Gedge (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Holmes said the claim was for a year's salary, which amounted to \$1,400, but the amount of the claim was reduced to \$1,000 in order to bring it within the jurisdiction of the Summary Court. An agreement for a term of three years was entered into between the parties, and Wessel's salary was to be \$2,400 for the first year, \$1,500 for the second year, and \$1,700 for the third year. There was a clause in the agreement to the effect that Carlowitz and Co. had the right to dismiss Wessel before the termination of the agreement by giving six months' notice in case they were not satisfied with his work. In pursuance of the agreement Wessel came to Hongkong and arrived here on the 31st July. He reported himself at the office of Carlowitz and Co. in the afternoon and saw Mr. Sachse, who informed him that he might go and look round Hongkong. The plaintiff fully understood Mr. Sachse to say that he might have liberty for a few days to look round the colony, get quarters, and settle his affairs.

Mr. Gedge—As a matter of fact Carlowitz and Co. provided quarters.

Mr. Holmes said he was instructed that Wessel provided quarters for himself outside. By leave of Mr. Sachse plaintiff absented himself for a few days. On the 1st August no question was raised about his absence. On the 2nd August he remained away and in the evening was surprised to receive a letter from Mr. Sachse expressing astonishment at plaintiff not having gone to the office that day. Plaintiff made enquiries from friends, including gentlemen connected with Carlowitz and Co., and was informed that Mr. Sachse had that day left for Canton and there was no one in charge to give orders.

The Acting Puisne Judge—I cannot agree with that—that the head of the firm went away and left no one in charge; it is absurd.

Mr. Holmes said he put it that way because the plaintiff understood such was the case. On the 3rd August, which was a Saturday, plaintiff went to the office. Mr. Sachse was absent; he was given no work, and he went away. The following day was Sunday and of course he did not go to the office.

The Acting Puisne Judge—There are plenty of offices open here on Sunday.

Mr. Holmes—I shall submit to your Lordship that no work is done in this office on Sunday.

The Acting Puisne Judge—The Sunday Cargo Working Ordinance does not apply to offices.

Mr. Holmes, continuing, said the next day was a Bank holiday, and plaintiff was informed that that was a general holiday, and he did not go to the office; no mention was made to the contrary. He (Mr. Holmes) submitted that absence from the office on this day did not constitute gross neglect or gross disobedience of orders so as to entitle defendants to dismiss the plaintiff. There were many cases in which for certain conduct masters could dismiss their servants, but they must be cases which come within the rules laid down. No act of the plaintiff warranted Mr. Sachse in dismissing him.

Evidence was then called, Mr. G. P. Lammert acting as interpreter.

The plaintiff said—I was engaged under agreement with Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. as a merchant. When I went to the office on 31st July I was told by Mr. Sachse to make myself acquainted with local customs, and that my absence would not matter for a few days. On that day I was taken to the Kowloon Hotel by Mr. Jesumann and established my quarters there. Up to the 2nd August I was on the steamer during the day with friends; the ship left that day. In the evening I received the letter from Mr. Sachse and I went to the German Club and saw Mr. Jesumann. I asked him to ask Mr. Sachse to excuse my absence on Saturday as it was only half a day. Mr. Jesumann said it would be all right as the books had been closed, and whatever work there was left could be done in two weeks. I had \$50 from the compradore on the Saturday in order to pay for certain things, and when I was dismissed the compradore demanded the money from me. I did not think it necessary to attend the office on Sunday unless under exceptional circumstances. I had worked on Sundays before I came here, and if I had been asked I should have gone at once; in the better houses work is not done on Sunday. I understood that Bank holiday was a holiday by law, and that it was not necessary for me to go to the office then. I wrote a letter to Mr. Sachse asking him to excuse me for my absence, and I found an answer on Monday evening at the German Club. The answer was as follows:—

"On returning from Canton I find your memo. of the 5th August at 3 p.m. I must confess I am very much surprised at your behaviour. You have time to go to the club but apparently no time to come to the office. Will you please come to me at once?"—A. Sachse.

I received the letter at eight o'clock in the evening and it was then too late to go to the office. For three or four days my eyes pained me and I could not bear the glare. On Monday evening I had a touch of fever and in the morning I could scarcely open my eyes. I had complained to several people in the firm about my eyes. On Monday I was introduced to Mr. Grodtmann, and I asked him to wake me up in case my boy should forget in order that I might get to the office on Tuesday morning. In the morning I felt very ill and I told Mr. Grodtmann that I could not get up as I felt weak and tired. That day I wrote on a visiting card a note to Mr. Jesumann asking him to send me a cooling lotion for the eyes. The note ran as follows:—

"I am suffering from inflammation of the eyes to such a degree that I cannot come to the office. Please excuse me."

I received a bottle of lotion and also the following memo:—

"We have to inform you once again that our office hours are from 8.30 to 1 and from 2 to 5.30 o'clock, and we should have at least expected that you would keep these hours. Up to now, however, you have entirely ignored them.—Carlowitz and Co."

I object to the words "once again," because that was the first time I was told of the hours. I remained in bed that day until four o'clock, when I came to Hongkong and tried to eat. The only thing I could take was a plate of soup. I went back to the Kowloon Hotel, but ate nothing else. I expected a doctor to be sent by the firm in accordance with the terms of the agreement, but a doctor did not come. When I got to the hotel I found the following letter:—

"Although you arrived on the 31st July you have not appeared from the 1st up to the 6th August, whilst you have repeatedly

been seen in clubs and hotels and drawn moneys from our compradore behind the back of our manager. You have made yourself guilty of serious infringements of your contract and of the German law, and we therefore consider our contract at an end. Of course you are responsible for all the debts you have contracted.—Carlowitz & Co."

I received this letter about 8.45 at night, and on the following day I wrote as follows to Carlowitz & Co.:—

"In reply to your favour of yesterday I take the liberty to inform you that I thought myself authorised in stopping away so long from business by your own request in order that I could get acquainted with Hongkong and that it did not matter particularly when I took up my duties. Should I have given your words an interpretation, on account of my ignorance of local business and social customs, which you did not mean, I crave your indulgence. Now neither this nor the following is a breach of the German law, as I asked Mr. Jesumann as well as Mr. Tarrabachia whether I would draw money from the compradore—you being absent—even without your knowledge, and I have found this fact confirmed by both gentlemen. Mr. Tarrabachia was personally present, so I did not think there was anything wrong. So far I have always been able to get an advance of a monthly pay in all my former positions direct from the cashier without asking the manager, and if I am not mistaken my present contract contains the same clause, so that I am at a loss to understand how this is a breach of contract or violation of the German law. It is now in your option of course to discharge me after six months' notice, or to transfer me during this time to one of your other branches in China respectively. In consideration, however, that there was neither intention nor bad will, but a simple misunderstanding, I should request you to abstain even from this, and not to put further obstacles in my way to take up my position. Hoping that you will consider the matter from this point of view, I remain, &c.—F. WESSEL.

The next morning I went to the office to again explain to Mr. Sachse the reason for my absence. He said "we have nothing to do with each other, and I will write to you." I afterwards received the following letter:—

8th August. Dear Sir—In answer to your letter of yesterday's date we cannot but evince our astonishment at the very cunning way in which you have made use of other people's remarks solely for your personal benefit, and not only that but also try to excuse yourself with misinterpretation. It is a disfigurement of the truth that Mr. Sachse would have said to you "It does not particularly matter when you take up your position." It is true that Mr. Sachse told you and at the same time Mr. Glissmann on the day of your arrival that to-day (31st July) was mail day and that on that day and the following, i.e., 31st July and 1st August, we had no special work for you, and you might have a look round Hongkong. But such a remark naturally only had reference to the 31st July and 1st August, and Mr. Glissmann giving the only possible interpretation to Mr. Sachse's words took up his position on the 1st August at noon in the proper way. There can be no doubt that you stand convicted of having acted perfectly wrongly inasmuch as Mr. Sachse expressed to you on Friday his astonishment in writing that you had not yet put in an appearance, to which you did not vouchsafe an answer. How forgetful of your duty and with what amount of disobedience you acted the fact proves that on Saturday, the 3rd instant, you did not put in an appearance and made use of Mr. Sachse's absence to obtain money from our compradore to the extent of \$55, whilst your contract contains the paragraph—"that you are never to draw more money than the salary actually earned." On Monday, the 5th instant, you write to Mr. Sachse from the German Club, 3 p.m., to be excused for that day without giving any reason, whereupon Mr. Sachse requests you to come at once, but no answer is forthcoming. On Tuesday, the 6th instant, you give out to be ill, but on Dr. Gerlach and Mr. Bischoff calling on you at your room in the afternoon, you had gone out. You do not seem to have given the fact a single thought, what an extremely bad impression you must

make on everybody. During a whole week you had time enough to hang around the club and hotels (only yesterday a bill was presented to us by the Hongkong Hotel for three bottles of hock, apollinaris and cigars, \$11.50 on your account, which very naturally we shall not pay), but you never had time to appear at the office, notwithstanding repeated written summons and also verbal intimations from your colleagues to that effect, and that is misconduct. You have broken your contract by refractoriness and by drawing money to which you were not entitled. We shall therefore not retract the discharge from our service sent you on the evening of the 6th inst. A six months' notice is not necessary in such a case. We have nothing more to do with you in this affair and consider all correspondence between us at an end. If you think you have been wrongly treated you can have recourse to law.—Yours truly, Carlowitz and Co.

I received 150 marks from the firm for travelling expenses, and I have not taken up money from Messrs. Carlowitz and Co., but from the compradore, and it was not on account of my salary. I have never misbehaved myself in the club or in the hotels, and when this was hinted in the letter I looked upon it as an insult. In regard to the hock I did not expect Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. to pay for it. I met half a dozen friends and I treated them to hock. I have not received six months' notice.

Mr. Gedge—We admit that letter is the only notice we gave him.

Witness, continuing, said—By reporting myself on the 31st July, I entered upon my duties. I should have worked on the 1st August if I had been asked. I was never told by Mr. Sachse or any member of the firm what my duties were; I was told in Hamburg that I should have to go into the bookkeeping department. The agreement was signed in Hamburg and very distinct enquiries were made about my character and work. My name was entered as a visiting member of the German Club, but it has been scratched out through Mr. Sachse using his influence.

Mr. Gedge objected to that; the witness did not know Mr. Sachse had used his influence.

Witness—Mr. Tarrabachia, an employe of the firm, has written to me about it.

His Lordship—He is making it pretty bad for his friends.

Witness—I have been told that in consequence of the way I was dismissed by Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. I shall not be able to obtain employment in the East, and that my social position was undermined by having my name scratched out of the Club's books. I have not been able to get other employment.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gedge—Mr. Glissmann came with me to Hongkong, and Mr. Jesumann met us. I think he had something to eat on board. I went ashore about 3.30. It is possible that Mr. Jesumann told me the following day was mail day and they were very busy and it was no good my going to the office on the Wednesday. He did not tell me to go to the office after the mail had gone.

At this point the witness said he did not feel at all well, and he was accommodated with a seat.

In answer to further questions witness said—When Mr. Glissmann and I were in Mr. Sachse's room I do not remember that he said that as it was mail day and as we would only be in the way we had better have a look round Hongkong, and that on the following day he would see about giving us work. He said it did not matter for a few days and that we could get acquainted with the Colony and settle down. Mr. Sachse was very busy at the time. I spent the evening at the German Club and slept on the *Preussen*.

Mr. Gedge—Did you have numerous drinks that night?

Witness—Nobody saw me drunk that night. Mr. Gedge—I did not suggest you were drunk. Did you have one bottle of beer or six bottles?

Witness—It depends upon how I feel. Mr. Gedge—Did you drink one bottle or six bottles of beer? Don't try to fence the question.

Witness—I do not know.

Mr. Gedge—Did not Mr. Jesumann on the

following day tell you to get settled and come back to the office that afternoon?

Witness—I certainly do not remember that.

Mr. Gedge—Did he not say that if you did not get settled that afternoon you must certainly go to the office on the following morning?

Witness—I am certain he did not say that.

Mr. Gedge—Didn't you tell Mr. Jesumann to tell Mr. Sachse that you intended to have a picnic that day—Friday?

Witness—I do not think I said so; I had never been to a picnic.

His Lordship—You must know whether you said it or not.

Witness—I really cannot remember. I did not think these things were coming before the Court and to be put in the scales of justice. I did not think there was a case pending.

After the interval Mr. Gedge asked witness how much drink he had on the night of the 1st August.

Witness—I cannot tell; it all depends how you feel.

Mr. Holmes—I think that is an irrelevant question; it is simply put to annoy the witness.

Mr. Gedge—Perhaps Mr. Holmes will produce an authority on "How to cross-examine a witness."

Mr. Holmes—I think that is very objectionable, Mr. Gedge.

Witness—I did not have a dozen whiskies or a dozen bottles of beer; nor half-a-dozen. Mr. Jesumann did not tell me that Mr. Sachse was astonished that I had not taken up my position and was angry and grumbling. I did not tell Jesumann that I refused to go to the office on the Friday and would go on the following day. I have spoken to Mr. Tarrabachia about this action. On the day the *Prussien* left Hongkong I did not say that I would go out with the vessel and return with the pilot in time for the office the following morning. I did not return with the pilot, but I might have returned from the docks in a sampan or a ricksha.

Mr. Gedge—Can you explain your conduct in not coming to the office on Saturday after receiving the letter on Friday?

Witness—The letter was not a direct request.

Mr. Gedge—You saw Mr. Jesumann, you knew Mr. Sachse was in Canton, and yet you did not go to the office. What is your reason?

Witness—I asked Mr. Jesumann to excuse me, and he said it would be all right. I had private matters to attend to.

Mr. Gedge—What were the private matters?

Witness—I shall not say what my private matters are. I am not a criminal and I have nothing to tell you about any private affairs.

Mr. Gedge—And you thought your private affairs would over-ride that letter and your going to the office on Saturday?

Witness—I excused myself with Mr. Jesumann and on the strength of that excuse I did not go.

Witness, proceeding—I got the eye lotion and the first letter from Carlowitz at the same time. The next day I saw Dr. Gerlach. I did not tell him that I had not been to Hongkong and had been in Kowloon with friends restoring myself; to say so is a direct lie. I had a conversation with Dr. Gerlach who said, "It might be fever caused by the sudden change of climate. You have been enjoying yourself a bit?" I did not deny that; but my illness was really due to climatic influence because I have suffered with my eyes since I came here, and they have pained me very much. I did not go to the office when I went to Hongkong at five o'clock in the afternoon as I did not think Mr. Sachse would be there. The least thing I expected when I reported myself ill was that Carlowitz would send a doctor—not for the fever, because I could cure myself, but for my eyes.

Mr. Gedge—Did you not know that when you were away the doctor came?

Witness—I was told the doctor came a quarter of an hour after I left.

Mr. Gedge—Did not Mr. Jesumann tell you the doctor was coming?

Witness—That was on the following day.

Mr. Gedge—On Wednesday Dr. Gerlach saw you?

Witness—That was after my dismissal and I refuse to tell you.

His Lordship—Don't be silly.

Witness—Well, I will tell you; he saw me. My eyes were better then.

Mr. Gedge—Did not Dr. Gerlach tell you that you had no fever, that you were all right and able to do your work?

Witness—The doctor said there would be, in his opinion, nothing in the way of my going to work. He might be able to say that of a man whom he had seen before but not of a stranger.

Mr. Gedge—Did you complain of fever, want of appetite, want of sleep, and trembling of hands?

Witness—I might have said more.

Mr. Gedge—Did not the doctor say you had evidently been drinking?

Witness—The doctor said he had heard that during the last night I had been having a glass of beer here and there, and this was the reason why the doctor was prejudiced.

Mr. Gedge—And you suggest that he did not make up his mind from what he saw but from what he had heard?

Witness—I think the doctor made up his mind upon hearsay evidence; the doctor heard about this and he must have been prejudiced.

Re-examined—At no time when I have been at the German Club have I had such a quantity of beer as would make me unsteady in my walk.

Mr. Gedge—Was it German beer?

Witness—Carlowitz & Co's. beer. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Holmes—Is it very strong beer?

Witness—Very mild.

Mr. Holmes—How many bottles could you drink without rolling over.

The interpreter—Do you mean dropping off his chair?

Mr. Holmes—Yes.

Witness—I must have a try first.

His Lordship—The man might have been drunk every day; you have got to show why he did not go to the office. Whether he was drunk has nothing to do with the case. He has got to show why he did not go to the office.

Mr. Holmes—I quite appreciate what your Lordship has said, but there have been so many insinuations against my client's character that they might, if not cleared up, affect your Lordship's opinion. My case is that defendant's absence was excused and that he had not been guilty of gross disobedience of orders such as to justify the defendants in dismissing him.

His Lordship—Suppose it was proved that his conduct was not good; that might be the reason why he did not go to the office. He ought to have gone to the office, as he was over here, and it is perfectly clear he went to the German Club. Why did he not go to the office? You have the second defence in the clause about six months' notice.

Mr. Holmes—It is no breach to be absent on a general holiday.

His Lordship—You have to prove it was a general holiday.

Mr. Holmes—That is only on one occasion; an absence of four days has been held not to be sufficient to justify dismissal. There is a clause in the agreement that if the firm is not satisfied with his conduct they shall have the privilege of giving six months' notice.

His Lordship—In common law it is recognised that a master has the privilege, outside the contract, to dismiss a servant for gross misconduct or disobedience.

Witness further re-examined, said—When I arrived in Hongkong I was under the impression that Monday was the day I had to put in an appearance in office.

This concluded the witness's examination, and his Lordship, in adjourning, put the case in Friday's list. He said that it would not be taken that day, but Monday or Tuesday would be fixed for the resumed hearing.

2nd September.

On the case being called his Lordship mentioned that the parties had, he was happy to say, come to an arrangement and had consented to save further expense and annoyance by withdrawing from further litigation. The defendants had stated that they were willing—although of course they admitted no liability whatever, and he (his Lordship) did not wish to prejudice the case—to give the plaintiff, out

of kindness and charity, a first class passage to Bombay on board an Austrian Lloyd steamer and a second class passage from Bombay to Trieste. They would also hand him 100 marks and pay his incidental expenses in Hongkong, in addition to \$50 for expenses on board the steamer; and, further, that the sum of \$50 which was obtained from the *compradore* should not be accounted against the plaintiff, although of course the defendants admitted no liability in this respect. Therefore judgment would be entered for the defendants by consent, and he thought this arrangement was a much better way of settling the matter.

Mr. Holmes—You make no order as to costs?

His Lordship—No.

EARTHQUAKES AT HONGKONG AND SWATOW.

A slight earthquake occurred on Friday afternoon shortly after five o'clock. A correspondent writes:—We felt the first shock at 5.43.30, it lasting about 15 seconds; the second at 5.50.15, but this one lasted only four seconds. We hardly believed it to be an earthquake until the chairs on which we were seated rocked to and fro, while doors and glasses rattled, and all the bells in the house rang. A small copper kettle on a gas-stand was jerked backwards and forwards, so strong was the oscillation.

On Friday night at about ten minutes to six a severe shock of earthquake was felt in Swatow. It had been excessively hot all day and many of the Europeans had complained of a dull oppressive feeling in the air. Just before the shock rain fell heavily. Some idea of its severity may be gathered from the fact that the ships in the harbour were shaken from truck to keelson and the mud in the river so agitated that the colour of the water was changed completely in a few seconds. During the passage from Amoy of the *Thales* the confused appearance of the sea outside the port was observed and commented upon. From the time this shock was felt until 3.15 a.m. on Saturday, a continuation of minor shocks were felt, although none attained the severity of the first.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Thursday afternoon, Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presiding, the other members present being Dr. J. A. Lowson (Acting Colonial Surgeon), Surgeon-Major Westcott (Health Officer), Capt. W. C. H. Hastings (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. Hugh McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

CHOLERA AT PAKHOI.

The British Consul at Pakhoi, in a letter to the Colonial Secretary dated the 17th August, reported an outbreak of cholera in Pakhoi. It was impossible to say when it first appeared, some accounts saying twenty days and some five or six days previously, and up to the time the letter was despatched twenty odd deaths were said to have occurred. The Medical Officer at the Missionary Hospital informed the Consul that the outbreak did not seem serious and that it was apparently on the decrease.

It was decided that the Health Officer of the Port should be instructed to carefully watch all ships.

THE IMPORTATION OF DEAD MEAT.

The following letter was addressed to the Colonial Secretary by the Acting Health Officer, and had been circulated among the members of the Board for consideration:—

"Sir,—I have the honour to report on the importation of meat into the colony, the conditions of which are unsatisfactory. It appears from reports by Colonial Veterinary Surgeon (3rd August, 1894, 21st August, 1894, 10th September, 1894) that a considerable amount of meat is imported into the colony which finds its way into the markets, where it is exposed for sale without previous inspection. When we consider the care which is taken in the inspection of live cattle previous to slaughter, and the

magnificent system of depots, slaughter houses, and markets which have recently been inaugurated for the protection of the public from an inferior or diseased meat supply, it certainly seems anomalous that this other and undesirable system should be allowed to continue. There are three by-laws under Ordinance 17 of 1887 which deal with this matter, viz., 14, 15, and 16, all of which seem never to have been enforced, and it does not seem possible to enforce them as long as meat is allowed to be landed at any spot on the island considered convenient by the importers, for the Inspectors cannot be watching every landing place for the arrival of carcasses, or be perpetually present at the markets to receive those who wish to declare the place from which their meat was imported, and I am led to believe that no means exist of differentiating carcasses which have come from the Government slaughter houses from those which have been imported from the mainland, as the cattle are merely branded as fit for slaughter, and no mark is put on the meat previous to its despatch to the markets. Another matter which requires to be dealt with, is the disposal of cattle rejected by the Inspector as unfit for slaughter. A strong suspicion exists that many of them are simply removed a short distance, slaughtered, and brought to the markets. The obvious remedy for these defects is to prohibit the introduction into the markets of any meat which does not bear the qualifying mark of an Inspector, as provided for in by-law 14, but the enforcement of this would necessitate the landing of all meat at a given pier at fixed hours, or its detention at some inspection station. The most effectual system, however, would be the prohibition of importation of meat from Kwangtung province, whence I understand nearly the whole amount is imported, to continue the branding of cattle previous to slaughter, as at present in force, and also to mark the meat before its despatch from the slaughter houses, in order to prevent the re-introduction of rejected cattle surreptitiously slaughtered."

"By-law 14.—No flesh meat other than that which has been slaughtered in the slaughter houses of the colony shall be exposed for sale in any market till it has been inspected by an Inspector of Markets and marked by him as being fit for human food."

The following minutes were appended:—

Mr. Ede—It seems to me that if by-law No. 14 of Ordinance 17 of 1887 is put into force and all meat slaughtered in the colony be also marked before sale it would ensure protection to all those who care to protect themselves by only buying meat in the regulated markets.

Surgeon-Major Westcott—It is impossible to estimate the quantity of meat which is imported, but it is probably not great, and the object of its importation can only be the disposal of cattle which the owners suspect would not qualify for slaughter. It will be very difficult to properly enforce by-law 14, and still more difficult to reject inferior or diseased meat as unfit for human food. I therefore strongly recommend the adoption of the second method suggested.

Dr. Lowson—I should like to see the reports of the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon referred to; if by-law 14 is carried out it is all that is required.

Capt. Hastings—Carry out by-law 14.

The CHAIRMAN said this question had occupied the attention of the Board on a previous occasion, and he found that the matter was twice referred to the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, who had pointed out the difficulty there was in carrying out the by-laws as at present constructed. He therefore moved: "That in the opinion of this Board it is considered desirable that by-law 14 should be altered to prohibit any sale of meat in the market other than that slaughtered in the slaughter houses of the colony."

Carried.

COCKLOFTS AND CUBICLES.

The Committee appointed to control the work involved in the removal of illegal cubicles and cocklofts sent in the following, with a request that it be approved by the Board and advertised in the *Gazette* and the daily papers:—

"No permission will be granted under the provisions of subsection 1 of section 7 of Ordinance 15 of 1894 for the erection or continuance of mezzanine floors or cocklofts in rooms partitioned or divided off into separate compartments unless the following conditions are complied with:—(a) the premises are constructed and maintained in a

satisfactory sanitary condition; (b) such mezzanine floor or cockloft is situated on the top or ground floor of premises; (c) in the case of top floors such mezzanine floor or cockloft does not extend over more than one half of the floor area of the room and has a clear space both above and below it of not less than nine feet measured vertically. When the roof has no ceiling or tile the measurement shall be made from the level of the floor up to half the vertical height of the rafters over such mezzanine floor or cockloft; (d) in the case of mezzanine floor or cocklofts on ground floors that do not comply with the conditions specified in the preceding paragraph, no permission will be granted for their continuance except for storage purposes only and provided that the space so enclosed shall not be included in the calculated area of the cubic capacity of the room available for habitation. It should be noted that under the provisions of subsection 2 of section 8 and by-law 7 under section 13 of this Ordinance, the partition walls of every separate compartment must not be of a greater height than eight feet and must leave a space between the top of the partitions and the ceiling or underside of the joists of not less than four feet and that such space must not be closed except with wire netting, iron or brass lattice work, or carved wood work, arranged in such a way as to leave at least two-thirds of such space open and as far as practicable evenly distributed."

With only a slight amendment the recommendations of the Committee were adopted.

THE LICENSING OF LODGING HOUSES.

Correspondence concerning the licensing of lodging houses was read.

The CHAIRMAN said the applications for lodging house licences were very few, only forty-nine having been received up to the present. A great deal had been done during the last few months towards the registration of these buildings, and what had been done would, he thought, greatly benefit the sanitary condition of the colony. He begged to move that the Registrar-General be informed that very few premises were affected by the question raised in the minute of 20th inst. and that the Board are of opinion that it is undesirable to alter the definition in the Ordinance.

Carried.

THE SALE OF POULTRY.

A report concerning the poultry dealers' shops in the Central Market was considered. It stated that it was undesirable to sell poultry outside the market, and suggested the desirability of dividing the wholesale poultry shops in the same way that the vegetable shops were divided.

The CHAIRMAN said the question which was materially referred to them was the desirability of providing spare shops for the use of those persons keeping a stock of poultry. He moved that the Registrar-General be informed that the market should be retained for retail sales only, with the exception of vegetables, which was a wholesale business. He proposed, he said, to make further enquiries and bring the matter before the Board again, with the suggestion of licensing premises to keep poultry in.

THE DEATH RATE.

For the week ended 17th August the death rate was 23.3 per 1,000 per annum, as compared with 16.3 during the corresponding week last year.

For the week ended 24th August the death rate was 23.3 per 1,000 per annum, as compared with 15.9 during the corresponding week last year.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 24th August says:—Undue importance has been attached to an attack on an American Board Mission Chapel near the N. W. gate of the city on Sunday last. The attack was not on the Chapel or directed against missionaries or foreigners—it was against the teacher of the mission school who had become mixed up in a village quarrel. Besides the teacher his brother and his mother took refuge in the chapel, when they were attacked by four of the opposing faction, and being there the assaulters thought they could bring most trouble on the head of the teacher by smashing some of the furniture. While it lasted the fray must have been pretty hot as four were wounded. Occurring at any other time nothing would have been thought of it.

THE EASTERN MICA WORKS.

It has been said over and over again that Hongkong is sadly lagging behind in the matter of establishing manufactures, and that while Shanghai is springing forward with leaps and bounds in its commercial prosperity we are allowing our opportunities to slip away. But although cotton manufacturing companies have not yet been launched here, a number of new industries on a moderate scale are taking root in the colony. One of the most recent additions is the manufacture of a composition which will doubtless prove of immense importance to all users of machinery and more particularly to the shipping community. To Mr. Cyril Holdsworth belongs the credit of bringing this trade to Hongkong, and it is at the Eastern Mica Works, Shauiwan Road, that it is being carried on. There are about forty men employed in the manufacture of mica composition, a self-adhesive and permanent non-conductor, by the use of which, by preventing radiation of heat, it is claimed no less than thirty per cent. in coal is saved. The principal ingredient in the composition is mica, which is obtained from Mr. Holdsworth's estate near Calcutta. The quarries are fourteen miles long, and before the mica is sent here it is ground into a very fine powder, as fine as flour, by huge machines, and then packed in sacks. On its arrival at the works the mica is mixed with pulse powder, cow-hair, fibre, and other materials, until it assumes the appearance of a very badly made roly-polly pudding. At this stage an evil smelling fluid, which is the secret part of the composition, is added to the cake mica, and when this is done the composition is complete and ready for export. Each cask of composition is worth \$100, and it is sent all over the world. Up to the present it has met with every success as a permanent coating for boilers and steam pipes, and there is every probability that this important discovery will find a large patronage.

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

A special meeting of the Green Island Cement Company was held on Thursday at the offices of Messrs. Shewan & Co., the General Managers, for the purpose of confirming the following special resolution:—"That the capital of the company be reduced from \$1,000,000, divided into 20,000 shares of \$50 each, to \$200,000, divided into 20,000 shares of \$10 each, and that such reduction be effected by cancelling capital which has been lost or is unrepresented by available assets to the extent of \$40 per share on each of the 14,117 shares which have been issued and are now outstanding, and by reducing the nominal amount of all the shares in the Company's capital from \$50 to \$10 per share." There were present: Messrs. R. Shewan (Chairman), Geo. Fenwick, J. Orange (Consulting Committee), R. K. Leigh, A. G. Morris, S. S. Benjamin, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Stokes, G. H. Potts, C. A. Tomes, and C. H. Grace.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. S. S. BENJAMIN, the resolution was unanimously confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE LING CH'ING OF CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Polemics generally take up time and give much trouble. They usually end just where they began, the result being in most cases that both sides are more confirmed in their respective opinions and that a certain amount of bad blood exists where it did not exist before. This being my experience, I should not have considered myself justified in making any reply to your correspondent "W" did the importance of the question forbid it being left as his criticism leaves it. Misapprehension, appearing in the ugly bodily form of misrepresentation, is too apt to be taken for effective disposal of an adversary's argument, and from the onlookers there comes much applause, and, in

the absence of a rejoinder, a conviction that the stronghold has been captured, the fact of its impregnability being obscured in the smoke of the literary discharge. I find myself, therefore, with no alternative but to defend myself against the attack made upon me, since, as is so often the case, silence would otherwise be taken to mean inability to reply.

Your correspondent's accusations of "rudeness and crudeness" I do not propose to dwell upon, partly because the costermonger style of controversy and *tu quoque* repartee (which, had I a mind, might with justice be hurled back with full force at "W's" head in this instance) are distasteful to me, and partly because this and his other personal thrusts are entirely irrelevant to the issue, being dragged in neck and crop in a manner suggestive rather of acrimony and spleen than of a serious desire to get at the truth. Accusations of rudeness and like personal reflections are the easiest to make and the most difficult to combat of any. They usually come at the end of a controversy instead of at the beginning, and are a sign that the party from whom they emanate has exhausted his polemical resources and, conscious of his inability to continue the argument or of the untenableness of his position, descends to a type of wrangling similar to that expressed in the question, "Have you left off beating your grandmother?" so common a feature of political "heckling." What rudeness there can be in pointing out that the Chinese are still in a state of savagery, that it is against the order of progress for white men to place themselves under the commands and to take the money of yellow savages, that facts seem to show that the methods at present employed to bring about a change in the condition of the nation must prove futile, that societies which have got into a rigid state can only be freed from that state by rigid means, and that there is danger to civilization from the unrestricted spread of uncurbed savagery, is not apparent—to me at least, but that is no doubt the fault of my "crude" intellect, and no course remains open to me but to wait until some of that wisdom of which "W," by ridiculing the less highly gifted, would have us believe he possesses so much, shall shed its bright rays into the dark corners of my mind.

Enough light has, however, been vouchsafed to me to show me quite clearly that "W" has not given to this very important matter half the amount of study it deserves, and that he does not bring to its consideration one atom of that most indispensable of all knowledge in the discussion of sociological questions—knowledge derived from the study of Sociology. People who write about this star or that planet are usually supposed to have spent some time in the study of Astronomy; and people who write about this tribe or that society may justly be supposed to have given some attention to the study of Sociology. Of all the sciences Sociology is the most difficult, because the phenomena presented in it are the most involved, yet judgments are daily passed on its most abstruse problems without a knowledge even of its fundamental axioms. Had your correspondent given himself the requisite preparation, I venture to think he would have avoided the errors which several previous discussions of this same question have shown me are invariably fallen into by those who do not comprehend the true nature of the Chinese society. How hopeless it is to attempt to reach tenable conclusions on the matter in the absence of this study is conspicuously shown in "W's" absurd comparison of the people of Europe in the Middle Ages with the Chinese of to-day. In common with most critics of his kind, "W" overlooks the most important little item of time. He sees no significance in the fact that a nation in one part of the world has got a thousand times as far as a much larger nation in another part of the world has in five times as long a life. Has "W" ever heard of an "aggregate of the first order," and does he know that the people of Europe in the Middle Ages lived in an environment which rendered it impossible for them to enter the state common to such aggregates, whilst in China the environment has all along conspired to mould them to and keep them in that state? The mistake made by even such a careful thinker as Bagehot and many who have come after him was that this state had to be passed through before a higher stage could be reached, whereas it has since been conclusively shown that it must be

passed by, and that nations which get into it seldom if ever get out without being broken up by internal revolution or by external force. The Japanese have succeeded in avoiding this state—had sufficient foresight, as it were, or been compelled by a different environment, to keep themselves pliable and to avoid becoming rigid (the law of evolution being that though dissipation of motion must accompany integration of matter, if the motion is parted with too quickly enough will not be retained to prevent the matter becoming rigid and incapable of further redistribution), and therefore the comparison so often made between them and the Chinese is, to a student of Sociology, merely a sign of inadequate knowledge of the laws which govern social development. "W" shows this want of knowledge by comparing Europe of the Middle Ages—a collection of "aggregates of the third order"—to China—an "aggregate of the first order." The proper comparison (of social states, of course, not of two societies for the purpose of showing different degrees of civilization) is not any such muddled-up arrangement, but a comparison of "aggregates of the first order" with "aggregates of the first order"—of China, not with Japan or Europe, but with Assyria, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Mexico, and Ancient Peru. Where are these societies now? They were precisely similar in type to China, with the one exception which I pointed out in my paper, namely, size. But the matter of size does not alter the state, any more than a huge boulder need be considered soft because it is bigger than a pebble. Were it not for the vast and ever increasing numbers of the Chinese people there would be no China problem. The society would follow the course which other societies of like nature have followed before it. But, to use once more the simile used in the paper criticized by "W," the weed may prove very dangerous to the rose, though it must always remain a weed. Therefore the question of the possibility of regeneration from within, to which "W" seems to attach so much importance, may really prove a danger and not a blessing, and the problem for us is to see to it that we restrict this dangerous growth—even at the cost of damage to or destruction of the Chinese society—before it becomes too widespread to be rooted out. The law of self-preservation—the first of all laws—is our justification for doing this. If we do not do it, then all the civilization which has been the sacred duty of our race to build up will be overrun by a low type of men whose god is their belly and who will first corner and then trample under foot our descendants and by their slow growth overspread the earth. The settlement of this question is an ethical duty to the civilized races—not merely a matter concerning the self-government or foreign government of the Chinese people. Therefore I have, I maintain, been justified in insisting very strongly upon the ethical wrong of helping instead of hindering the life of an element which may prove so baneful—nay, fatal—to our children's children, and on the propriety of each man sticking to his own colours and working for them to the best of his ability. Sociology tells us that for social "aggregates of the first order" there is no other remedy but disintegration. The nature can no longer be changed unless the conditions are altered. The old bottle of China cannot hold the new wine of civilization. It is not made that way. The society must either continue to increase in size without attaining that structural and functional heterogeneity in the absence of which civilization cannot be, or it must go to pieces. In the paper called "The Ling-ch'ihing of China" I endeavoured to show that, being an aggregate of this kind, China cannot advance herself, or be advanced either from a position of inferiority or equality, but that in any case the advance of Chinese civilization is not the object to be aimed at—our own self-preservation is the first object. When we have made sure our own salvation and averted the dangers which threaten our civilization, then we may, if we like, civilize others as much as we can or please—but not till then. What steps should be taken to restrict or uproot the Chinese weed it is not easy to say, but it is obvious that dealing with several small societies by their respective foreign governments would be an easier matter than dealing with an immense rigid aggregate under its own government.

Your correspondent says he does not see what bearing the quotation he gives respecting white men serving the Chinese can have on the argument for the breaking-up of the empire. It has this bearing. In order to show that the breaking-up is the only possible solution of the question, it was necessary to show that the proposed solutions would not do. I endeavoured to show that, as other societies of similar nature have proved, progress towards civilization must come, if it come at all, from without; that several causes conspire to show that the various forces as at present acting from without (including those introduced from without and acting from underneath) are inadequate, and that the supreme danger does not justify us in endorsing these proposals, even granting that they are working quickly enough to effect any useful results, which I think they are not, and cannot, by reason of the nature upon which they have to act. Character, I repeat, is the all-important consideration, and there is nothing to show that any change has taken place or, if any has taken place, that the results are not too slow and too infinitesimal to be of any value whatever. It may be quite true that "had we not supported the rotten Peking Government during the T'ai-ping rebellion China would by this time have been an entirely different country and would decades ago have been opened throughout its length and breadth to foreign enterprise," etc.; but this only proves that the disintegration I advocate would have the desired results, for in this case the "rotten Peking Government" having vanished, there must either be one or several foreign governments or several small native governments. Only in the millennium shall we be able to do without government. If another native government had been set up over the whole empire, the case would be the same as before—one native government must be as "rotten" as another, since the character of the people does not change with a change of government; which leads us to believe also that several small native governments, though perhaps easier to deal with, would be as "rotten" as one general government; which leaves the alternative of one or more foreign governments; which is the point I have all along been driving at.

I have left no time to notice "W's" minor quibbles, but must not do so without reminding him that I have not as yet maintained that the fact of the hair of the Chinese being black "is sufficient proof that [the Chinese] is incapable of being regulated without being, as a nation, stabbed in the heart." The coarseness of his hair was referred to as one among many tokens of uncivilization—fineness of hair on the human head being, as "W" himself admits, one of the characteristics of the higher races—and the tokens of uncivilization were referred to show the small advance made in the immense length of life which, in the case of societies of this type, warrants the assumption that advance cannot go on at a more rapid rate. To draw from this the inference that I hold that the "dark-haired races are incapable of self-government would be more absurd than that generalization would be itself, and only shows once more how utterly lacking your correspondent is in the first principles of Sociology and in the ability to grasp even the most obvious meaning of an argument. Surely the fact that English hair has reached a fine quality already, whilst that of the Chinese is still coarse after their 5,000 years of social life, is, if anything, a proof of non-advance in physical civilization on the part of the Celestial and not a promise or potency of better things. The same superficiality is shown by your correspondent in his next paragraph. What inconsistency is there in saying that we "chip off small bits now and again" although "nearly all the limbs are now severed?" Why is it impossible to chip off small bits from the main body? The very illustration I used, namely, that of a boulder, does not suggest anything with limbs. Again, the assertion that the morality of the Chinese in the Straits Settlements (mostly emigrants from the lower classes who left their country in opposition to public opinion and, until recently, of their country's law, and therefore not to be compared with honest merchants of Shanghai) has not improved in fifty years (I never heard of anyone trying to improve it), is only another proof, if any

were needed, that the characters of people belonging to "aggregates of the first order" cannot easily be changed, which contention was the very backbone of my whole paper. Those who have given some time and study to this matter know that no one in a position to give an opinion would expect any change in national character in fifty years or even in a hundred. You must first have the people in such a position that you can compel them to listen and act) and keep on compelling them, and then only can you reasonably hope that the accumulated effects of habit on character will in time—probably a very long time—bring about some permanent change.—Yours faithfully,

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE.
August 27th, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I am glad to think that I have been the means of benefiting the readers of the *Daily Press* by inducing your contributor to further elucidate his short and easy method with "yellow savages." Even were you to permit it I have neither the time nor the wish for a controversy on the subject. Besides, such would be worse than useless, seeing that I am "utterly lacking in the ability to grasp even the most obvious meaning of an argument." I have no intention of imitating anyone in assuming the attitude of pussy when the terrier makes playful overtures. To discuss such a big subject as the regeneration of the Chinese race requires more time than a mercantile man can snatch out of a busy day. My chief object in addressing you was to warn your contributor of the danger of weakening his case by allowing himself to use language unnecessarily offensive. Admitting that it would be for the ultimate benefit of humanity at large that the Chinese should be civilized on our lines, I would ask the writer of the article whether he does not think it probable that the few thousands of Europeans sent here to govern the hundreds of millions of natives would be absorbed and gradually sink to their level. What would have become of Macao and the Portuguese thereof had it not been for this British colony and the Foreign Settlements at the Treaty Ports? They would have sunk to at least far below the level of the Portuguese of Europe and have made no perceptible impression on the Chinese. How then would it be if the proportion of Europeans to natives were, as it would necessarily be, incomparably less? Will your contributor point out any instance in ancient or modern history that can serve as evidence that the character of the Chinaman would change under foreign rule. Rome and her colonies will not do; nor will the case of India serve. India at no time could come under the classification of "an aggregate of the first order," and its population is in race akin to its conquerors. The writer of the article says that to avert the dangers which threaten our civilization should be our first object. I really fear me that his plan would not change the Chinese "weed" into a rose; but would give it the opportunity of spreading more widely. But in truth there is nothing to fear; the human race has been progressing from the time of the earliest geological records till now and will continue to do so whether the "yellow savage" ever becomes like unto us or not.—Yours faithfully,

Hongkong, 29th August, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Were youth perennial and man immortal, it were possible, provided the patience of the Editor and his readers were infinite, to cut off one by one the many heads of the hydra controversy and ultimately to shake hands over his corpse. As the conditions of such a contest are not likely to be fulfilled, it is to be feared that neither will the happy ending be realized; but though "W" and I do not yet agree, I feel that we are nearer to an agreement than when we began the fight, and he has at any rate shown that a controversy with him would probably prove an exception to the rule that polemics usually end in abuse. Under these conditions, too, it would be possible for each combatant to carefully consider his opponent's statements, so that the time spent in repetition and in disproving things which have not been said would be saved. Had "W" had time to carefully

peruse my last letter, I think he would have seen that I insisted on the importance of self preservation as against improvement of the Chinese race:—"We should restrict this dangerous growth—even at the cost of damage to or destruction of the Chinese society—before it becomes too widespread to be rooted out."

What steps should be taken to restrict or uproot the Chinese weed it is not easy to say, but it is obvious that dealing with several small societies by their respective foreign governments would be an easier matter than dealing with an immense rigid aggregate under its own government." By this is meant not the unrestricted improvement of the people under us, but only their improvement as long as it is to our benefit. The right and effective means will no doubt be found in time. So long as the people are independent we must meet them as equals or inferiors, and cannot mould or guide or restrain with any certainty of permanent result. In what way we should best lead them is, I admit, a difficult question, but it seems to me, as I said before, that it would be easier for several European governments to control several small Chinese societies than to resist the growth of one large united nation and compete with it on equal terms. The evil effects of this competition are already becoming apparent. By a curious coincidence there appears in your issue of the 30th inst., in the next column to "W's" letter, and just opposite to it, a most telling quotation showing how the growing danger of the Chinese "weed" is being felt in Australia. I cannot resist quoting it in full:—"We cannot compete with Chinese; we cannot intermix or marry with them; they are aliens in language, thought, and customs; they are working animals of low grade but great vitality. The Chinese is temperate, frugal, hard-working, and law-abiding, if not law-abiding—we all acknowledge that. He can outwork an Englishman, and starve him out of the country—no one can deny that. To compete successfully with a Chinaman, the artisan or labourer of our own flesh and blood would require to be degraded into a mere mechanical beast of labour, unable to support wife or family, toiling seven days in the week, with no amusements, enjoyments, or comforts of any kind, no interest in the country, contributing no share towards the expense of Government, living on food that he would now reject with loathing, crowded with his fellows ten or fifteen in a room that he would not now live in alone, except with repugnance. Admitted freely into Australia, the Chinese would starve out the Englishman, in accordance with the law of currency—that of two currencies in a country the baser will always supplant the better."

Now, leaving for the moment the question of the danger itself, there can to my mind be no doubt that, whatever else we may do, it is certainly not our duty to pursue the suicidal course of positively helping or trying to help this unclean and dangerous people in the way those who serve them do. If I spoke strongly on this point it was because I feel strongly, and surely no language could be too strong to denounce a method by which a man may be encouraging the great-grandfather of the murderer of his great-great-grandchildren. Because the result of the deed may be far removed the deed itself is not thereby rendered any the less criminal. We have only to imagine for a moment the results which would follow an inversion of the state of things in India, to see the gruesome effects of thus traitorously aiding the enemies of our own people. But it is unnecessary to dwell longer on this unsavoury matter, for the situation is so unnatural that anyone who thinks cannot but be convinced that it must right itself again before long.

Turning to "W's" supposition that the white rulers of China would sink to the level of the Chinese, I think it will not be difficult to judge him out of his own mouth. In the first place, his illustration of "Macao and the Portuguese thereof" is particularly unfortunate. No one can stay long in Macao without seeing very plainly that the Portuguese permanent residents there have "sunk to at least far below the level of the Portuguese of Europe and have made no perceptible impression on the Chinese." This is a fact no one who has lived in that colony for any length of time will deny, and it is, to say the least, a very curious statement that

they have been saved from sinking below the level of the Portuguese of Europe by "this British Colony and the Foreign Settlements at the Treaty Ports." If the Macanese who have left Macao for Hongkong or the Treaty Ports are superior to those who have remained, that is not a sign of any improvement in those who have remained. It is a sign rather that the government and conditions of life are better in those places than in Macao. No instance could be given which more strongly supports my case. If the great majority of the Portuguese long resident in Macao have sunk almost to the level of the Chinese—which will be denied by no unbiassed witness—why have not the English done so in Hongkong, or why do they not show some tendency to do so? The proportion of whites to natives is smaller in Hongkong than in Macao. In the Treaty Ports it is smaller still. Will anyone allege that in the Treaty Ports the English and other white residents are sinking to the level of the Chinese? I for one have not observed this tendency, nor have I anywhere seen its existence seriously maintained. What this comparison of Macao with Hongkong and the Treaty Ports does prove is that the English character is not one to sink to the level of the people they govern. It shows the difference both in the characters of the people and the systems of government—the soundness of the one and the rottenness of the other. Have we sunk in India to the level of the Hindoo? No. I have greater faith in the grit of the good British race than to believe that our governing China or a part of it would be tantamount to our degenerating into Chinese savages.

Referring to the other side of the question, and passing over the anomaly of "W's" approval, in his first letter, of the suggested remedy although, in his second, he argues that it would not be beneficial, I am not prepared to give instances showing that the Chinese character would change under foreign rule, for the simple reason that to do so is not necessary to my argument. Whether the character changes or not it will be equally dangerous to us, possibly as much so if it does not change as if it does. Sociology, however, warrants us in believing that changed habits by gradually accumulated effects modify character, and people belonging to social types like that to which the Chinese belong are likely to do anything sooner than change their habits unless compelled to. Believing that some change might thus be wrought in time does not imply that it is our duty to change the weed into a rose otherwise than in a way which shall be to our own advantage. Of the two evils it seems plain that our duty is to choose the lesser one of placing ourselves in a position from which at any rate we shall be able to do something, and endeavour to turn the evil into a blessing, rather than to sit idly by and watch the evil growing without making any effort to nip it in the bud. The case of China is unique in the world's history, because all other "aggregates of the first order" have been comparatively small and have disappeared in the natural course of events. "W" believes there is nothing to fear. He lumps the whole human race together and says that it will continue to progress as it has been doing all along. On that point I quite agree with him. But let him think of the difference there must be in time between the mere numerical strength of the descendants of a family of 2 and of a family of 1,000 in only 100 years, and all that that implies, and he will see that there must after all be some vital meaning in the existence at the end of the nineteenth century of an immense rigid social aggregate of four hundred millions of yellow savages.—Yours,

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE.
August 30th, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—In your issue of August 24th appeared a lengthy article under the above heading. A subsequent writer has already advertised thereon and characterized it as "crude." The original paper is evidently from the pen of a close observer of the people among whom presumably he dwells, and many of his judgments few foreigners who have lived long in China will dispute. The two paragraphs, however, in which he discusses the methods, ideals, and results of mission work, show that

the writer is not so conversant with his subject as could be wished.

(1.)—It is assumed that the missionary believes that "the constant reiteration of Christian precepts produces Christian conduct." Now, although acquainted with a number of missionaries, I have not yet met one who would concede that his hope for the regeneration of the Chinese lies in such a mechanical delivery of Christian teaching. What is believed, is what an authority once stated—an authority, by the by, who tested his theory by facts with a care and lifelong self-denial quite equal if not superior to those with which Darwin tested his theory of evolution—that "the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." In other words the missionary's hope lies in the working of a higher Power than that of the mere reiteration of Christian precept.

(2.)—It is stated that "the number of converts is far too small to keep pace with the increase of the population." At present this is probably so, though any reasonable man, conversant with the position of Christianity in China, who remembers the ignorance and superstition of the crowd, the arrogance and deceit of the literati, hatred and dread of the mandarins, will think the progress fairly respectable. Moreover it must be insisted on that the number of baptized Christians by no means represents the results realized. A large and ever increasing number of the people are being favourably impressed with the beauty and utility of the truths preached. But the statement of the essayist assumes that the pace hitherto kept will be continued till Doomsday—which is by no means certain. Has he forgotten that half of Europe was reformed in half the life-time of a single preacher? All of us hope and some of us believe that some day this will be repeated in China. At any rate, to deny the possibility is hardly wise.

(3.)—The *North China Herald* is bold enough to aver that "the missionaries are the educators of the people in science." The article asks "What preparation have the missionaries had to place them in the position of being able to educate the people in one or more sciences?" That is a fair question. The writer himself, however, in a previous paragraph, points out that the Chinese people are ignorant "even of the shape of the earth or the movements of the planets round the sun." It will now appear that no special "preparation" is needed to teach elementary science. Most of us know that the earth is round, and can state the reasons for our knowledge both in English and Chinese. Indeed the knowledge of science obtained by a board school boy who has passed the sixth standard would place him at a considerable advantage over most of the Chinese in this regard. Moreover, there are men who are well able to teach both religion and science—say for example obstetrics. To-day a case has come under my observation in which a young Chinese Christian rendered such help in a mandarin's family that not only was he himself remunerated and belauded, but the doctrines of Christianity even seriously and sympathetically discussed. His knowledge both of religion and midwifery was derived from missionaries.

(4.)—But it is assumed that we cannot teach religion and science, because the "facts" of "science" "are at variance with the facts taught under the head of duty or faith." Now it does not appear quite clear how one fact can possibly "be at variance" with another fact. A fact is "a reality," "a truth." What is meant, however, may be that the facts of science "are at variance" with the theories "of duty or faith," or *vice versa*. Now whilst we admit that some facts of science may "be at variance with" some theories of faith, and even duty, I believe that it is generally admitted that science and duty or faith are not mutually exclusive. Some authorities on science have been known to discharge their Christian duties, and have even confessed some Christian faith. It is therefore possible for a missionary to enjoy the same elementary privilege, and to urge others to a like enjoyment.

(5.)—It is asked "why not" arise "from Christianity to something still higher" than Christianity. Herein lurks the assumption

that something higher—in duty or faith—exists to which to rise. But where is it? what is it? When someone offers me something that is clearly "higher" than Christianity I shall be as ready as the writer to rise to it, or to speak more carefully, to attempt the ascent. But till then? The fable of the dog and the shadow suggests a more excellent way.

(6.)—It is assumed that before any attempt is made to teach others, the teacher himself must have "succeeded in acting up" to the perfect "code" himself. But surely this is an untenable position to assume. Probably the writer has dealt with a Chinese despatch; may have ventured to help others to acquire Chinese. But would he claim to have perfected himself in this very cumbersome language? A teacher may instruct a boy that the gen. of *lex* is *legis* without knowing all the Latin authors by whom the word is used. Macaulay, in a speech delivered at Edinburgh, once advised his audience to remember "Gulliver's adventures. First he is shipwrecked in a country of little men; and he is a Colossus among them." The application seems to me quite clear.

(7.)—The two paragraphs under review close with truthful words well put. To attain perfection in the moral world is more difficult. The writer, however, seems to regard moral perfection, were it possible, as a desideratum for the Chinese. But will their subjugation accomplish it? Whether it would be wise for one or more of the Western Powers, in the cause of self-preservation, to give China "the final stab in the heart," with "as little delay as possible" is another question and is not here discussed. But would "this act of greatest mercy" secure the thing desiderated. By no means. Such a course would doubtless confer many blessings on the masses and would be hailed with joy by large numbers of them; but the regeneration of the heart cannot be effected by stabbing it. I have received to-day a letter from a British official, who speaks of the character of the Chinese in the Straits Settlements in no measured language. Yet they are under British rule. Moreover, he would be a bold man who asserted that the Chinese in Hongkong are more moral than those who reside in inland towns and who have hardly ever heard of the Great Emporium of the East. No. The power that makes for moral perfection is Divine, and not human; it is "a power of good" which seizes upon the heart and by its regeneration changes the whole life. That power is to-day regenerating men who submit to the most corrupt of Governments, and is found wanting in others who live under Governments the most benign.

C. BONE.

Canton, August 29th, 1895.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

It is said that H. E. Chang, Chih-tung, Viceroy of Nanking, hearing that the Canton officers intended to abolish the Naval College in Whampoa, wired to the Viceroy of Canton a few days ago to the effect that the said college, which was founded by him when he was Viceroy of Canton, will be of great utility to China in future and that it should not be brought to an end. It is said that the Canton officers have abandoned the idea of abolishing the college.

A few days ago the Magistrate of Pun-u issued a notification in response to a petition presented by an opium-divan keeper named Kwang Hing to the effect that on the 30th July the divan was robbed by the opium smokers, who took an opportunity of shutting the door, then pointed their revolvers at the shopmen, and took away all the opium and other valuable things therein; but, as the opium divan is a place of refuge for people of bad character, it is no wonder that it should be robbed, for the divan itself opened the door for the thieves; and that in future no opium divan is allowed to open at night time, and that if any one has been found to neglect this order he is to be severely dealt with.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Canton guard boats issued a notice to the effect that if any boat coolie is discovered sheltering any thief he is to be severely dealt with; and that if any one gives help or information to effect

the arrest of any thief, he is to be largely rewarded.

A few days ago some soldiers were sent by the Magistrate of Nam-hoi to arrest two great cheaters who told the people that they were sent from Peking by a prince with the intention to monopolise the Waisan lottery, whose term will soon expire. They tried to induce people to go into partnership with them and induced them to advance money to make presents to the Canton officers and to meet other expenses. It is said that a good number of people fell into the trap. When they were arrested and brought before the Magistrate, they were still dressed in official robes. The Magistrate of Nam-hoi issued a notice telling those who were cheated by the men to send in their claims, so that the Magistrate might make them return the money.

The runaway General named Ng Kwok-wa, who was arrested by the order of the Canton officers some time ago for his cowardice and misconduct when he was in Formosa, was again brought forward for trial on the 22nd inst. The evidence was too weak to convict him and he will probably soon be set free.

On the 23rd inst. a man named Li Ku-shing walked along the streets in Canton with a parcel of raw silk. A soldier suddenly sprang forward and snatched the silk and ran away. The man gave pursuit and with the help of some passers-by the soldier was arrested. The man wished to bring the thief to Kam Ling-tong, the Silk Guild. When the soldier-thief was dragged past the Wa Lam monastery, where there was a station of soldiers, his brother soldiers at once rushed out and set the thief free. The man then ran back to the Silk Guild and told what had happened, whereupon the people were in great anger and a large number went to the monastery to ask the soldiers to return the thief. The soldiers declined and, after some high words had passed, arrested three of the silk workers, accused them of making a disturbance, and sent them to the Nam-hoi Magistrate. The silk workers were greatly incensed and closed all their shops and went on strikes. They sent their complaints to the Magistrate, the Prefect, and the Provincial Judge, and on the 27th instant they gathered about two thousand of their number, to go and complain to the Governor. The Governor was greatly surprised and immediately issued a notification to the effect that the Government was ignorant which side was in the right, the soldiers or the silk workers; but the three silk workers arrested must first be set free and the Nam-hoi Magistrate must carefully examine the case so as to bring it to the light. It is said that on the 28th inst. the military officer Li Ka-chenk went in person to the Silk Guild to square the matter.

The Viceroy and the Governor of Canton have issued a notification to the effect that the missionaries are allowed by treaty to go to all places to carry on their work, and that if any one dares to ill-treat the missionaries he is to be severely dealt with.

HONGKONG.

It has been excessively hot during the past week, and everybody must be glad now that the last of the hot months has set in. The inquest on the body of the Chinaman found in Aberdeen Harbour has not yet been concluded, but the Magistrate has expressed the opinion that murder has been committed and that the body found is not that of the missing Customs gigman. The Sanitary Board met on Thursday, and on the same day an interesting case—*Wessel v. Carlowitz and Co.*—was heard in the Supreme Court. At the adjourned hearing verdict was given for the defendants, who, without admitting their liability, consented to pay the plaintiff's passage home. There was a slight shock of earthquake on Friday. An important case affecting a comprador's bond has been opened before the Chief Justice; the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Limited, are the plaintiffs, and the executors of the will of Cheung Kai are the defendants.

H.M.S. *Redbreast*, which arrived on Friday from Anping, will leave for India after docking. She was detached from the Indian station to join the China Squadron last year.

There were 65 in-patients treated in the Alice Memorial Hospital last month and the number of out-patient visits was 1,613. At the Nethersole Hospital the numbers were 32 and 40 respectively.

It is reported that in deference to representations made to them the Directors of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited, will probably call an extraordinary meeting of shareholders to consider the expediency of making a return of capital. \$5 per share is the amount purposed to be returned. The directors, we believe, and some of the shareholders do not support the proposal.

At the Magistracy on Saturday the hearing was re-opened of a case in which a Chinaman was charged with having imitated the Government stamp for cattle. On Tuesday the man was fined \$150, but this decision was reversed by the Magistrate on Saturday. The defendant was alleged to have taken condemned cattle into the market after branding them with a broad arrow similar to that used by the Inspector in certifying cattle fit for consumption.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospitals:—

Hop Hing Hong	\$100
Kin Tye Loong	50
Chai Marine Insurance Co., Ltd.	50
Kwong Mow Tai	25
Joo Tek Seng	15
Kwong Yu Wo	15
Man On Tong	15

A new industry has sprung up at Canton, namely, the canning of fish and fruit. The goods are shipped to Shanghai, Singapore, and California. The fish is preserved in oil, groundnut oil being used. The wholesale prices are almost as high as those of foreign canned fish and fruit, but the goods must obtain a sale amongst the natives or they would not be shipped. The tins bear labels with very good illustrations of the contents and descriptions in Chinese. The originators of the trade are Chinese formerly employed in canneries on the Pacific Coast of America.

The community is being rather hardly dealt with at present in being deprived of some of the best amateurs to whom it has been accustomed to look for its enjoyment at concerts and entertainments. It is only a week ago that we had to chronicle the departure of Mr. Brady, lately our leading comic man, and now we learn that Mr. Sliman, our leading tenor, is about to be transferred to Foochow, and leaves on Sunday morning. Mr. Sliman, with his fine tenor voice, will be an acquisition to Foochow musical circles, but we hope his transfer is to be only temporary, not permanent.

The Hongkong correspondent of the *Straits Times* makes the following original suggestion:—Why, if Chinese are allowed to go about in the country in England, should not Englishmen be allowed to go about in the country in China? Instead of stopping the missionary would it not be better to send the tourist as well? A few personally conducted Cook's parties through the length and breadth of China would do an immensity of good provided it were clearly understood that the foreigner was not only not to be murdered but that if he were mobbed or rudely treated satisfaction would be at once insisted on. Why should not excursion parties up the Yangtze, the Grand Canal, or the West River be as popular as trips up the Rhine, the Nile, or to Jerusalem?

The following "additional regulation" has been made by the Governor in Council under the provisions of the Licensing Consolidation Ordinance and the Private Vehicles Ordinance:—"Every public or private vehicle, whether licensed or not, when meeting any other vehicle, shall pass it by keeping to its own left side of the road and when overtaking any other vehicle going in the same direction shall pass it by keeping to its own right of such vehicle." We were under the impression that that had always been the legally recognised rule of the road and the reason for its being now promulgated as an "additional regulation" is not very clear. The Private Vehicles Ordinance, by the way, has not yet received Her Majesty's approval. The Secretary of State is apparently taking time to consider it.

There were 1,632 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 146 were Europeans.

Mr. T. Sercombe Smith has been appointed a member of the Board constituted under the Squatters Ordinance.

The Spanish gunboat *Don Antonio de Ulloa*, which arrived from Shanghai on Friday, went into quarantine, having cholera on board.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the following Ordinances have been approved:—An Ordinance to restrict the wearing of Naval and Military Uniforms, an Ordinance to amend the Magistrates Ordinance, and an Ordinance for the naturalization of Samuel Donnenberg.

A short time ago we referred to the presence on the Canton market of scales of Fairbank type and Japanese make. These, we learn, are arriving in increasing quantities and are of very good quality, so good indeed that the difference could not be told were it not for the Japanese names on them.

An Indian policeman was charged at the Police Court on Saturday with assaulting an Indian sergeant. The prisoner was discharged from the force a few days ago and on Friday he met the sergeant, accused him of being the cause of his discharge, and then brutally assaulted prosecutor with a heavy stick. A sentence of six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour was passed.

An Order of the Queen in Council making rules under section 8, sub-section 3, of the Mail Ships Act, 1891, is published in the *Gazette*. The rules have reference to the proceedings in actions brought against mail ships which have given security to Her Majesty's Government and which are in virtue thereof exempted from detention in Admiralty proceedings.

It is reported that several firms and public companies are thinking of moving on to the reclamation as soon as they can make arrangements for building. One lot of Crown land is already advertised for sale and there seems to be a general feeling that rather an extensive movement towards the water front will be made and that the new Club-house will not long remain a solitary building.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Canton and Macao	3,753,104	3,161,950
Foochow	10,612,140	13,270,117
Shanghai and Hankow	13,697,320	12,912,927
	27,972,564	29,344,994

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Amoy	5,394,500	5,785,884
Foochow	4,778,074	3,189,560
Shanghai	13,462,043	12,859,735
	23,634,617	21,835,179

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	26,706,242	22,521,578

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Yokohama	19,829,325	21,572,243
Kobe	11,388,829	10,634,292
	31,218,154	32,206,535

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 29th August.—(From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's circular).—London advices dated 27th current report the market "strong." Gold Kiling are quoted 3d. higher at 8/3, and Blue Elephants without change at 10/3. Deliveries up to the 26th, 700 bales. Raw Silk.—The demand has continued, and holders have obtained a further advance of 2½ Taels on some classes of Silk. A rise in exchange has interfered with business, which otherwise would have been large. Total settlements for the week are about 2,000

bales. Tsatlees.—Have been in good request. Gold Kiling are very firm at Tls. 347½, Mountain 3 at Tls. 407½, and Mountain 4 at Tls. 382½. Taysams.—A fair business has been done at quotations. Yellow Silks.—The demand has fallen off, but prices remain firm. Arrivals, as per Custom Returns from the 22nd to the 28th of the August, are 1,922 bales of white, 535 bales of Yellow, and 59 bales of Wild Silk. Re-reels and Filatures.—No transactions in re-reels are reported. In China Filatures about 300 bales have changed hands. Lion Konghang Haining No. 1 and 2 at Tls. 525 and Tls. 515. Blue Pheasant 2 and 3 at Tls. 485 and Tls. 475 respectively. Wild Silks.—No business has passed this week. Waste Silk.—We have to report an active week. Settlements reaching about 2,000 piculs, and comprising Curles No. 1 at Tls. 68½, Curles, 1, 2, 3 usual assortment Tls. 60½. Cocoon Flosses No. 1 Tls. 18½ to 19. Honan Waste No. 2 at Tls. 19, Hankow Frisonnets (whole bales) at Tls. 19, and Yuhang pierced Cocoons 74/75 per cent of silk at Tls. 67. The market is very firm. Pongees.—Nothing doing.

Purchases include:—Tsatlees.—Large Elephant 3 at Tls. 407½, do. 4 at Tls. 375, Mountain 3 at Tls. 407½, do. at Tls. 382½, Yellow Elephant at Tls. 400, Gold Kiling at Tls. 347½, Silver Elephant at Tls. 347½, Blue Phoenix at Tls. 337½, Dollar S.S.S. at Tls. 325. Hangchow Tsaltees.—Lanhock at Tls. 332½, Blue Lion Taylor at Tls. 327½. Taysam.—Wh. Kah. Gd. Lily Flower Tinghow at Tls. 392½, do. Taylor at Tls. 367½, do. Neor at 342½, Green Kahing Cicada 1 at Tls. 375, do. Gold Goose 1 at Tls. 362½, do. Woman and Loom at Tls. 352½, do. M at Tls. 332½, do. Gr. Almond Flower 1 at Tls. 317½, 9/12 Moss Double Butterfly 2 at Tls. 297½, do. Green Stork 4 at Tls. 242½. Chincum.—Tiger Chop Tinghow at Tls. 355, do. Tinghow at Tls. 345, Fighting Cock No. 1 at Tls. 350, do. at Tls. 340. Skeins.—Chingyung Best at Tls. 282½, do. No. 1 at Tls. 220. Yellow Silk.—Shantung Skeins Gold Tiger 2 at Tls. 282½, Mienschew at Tls. 260 to Tls. 270, Meeyang at Tls. 228½ to Tls. 232½, Fooyung at Tls. 212½. Filature China.—Hon Konghang Haining 1 at Tls. 522½ to Tls. 525, do. 2 at Tls. 512½ to Tls. 515.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96 bales.	1894-95 bales.
Shanghai	19,455	10,713
Canton	3,956	2,209
Yokohama	3,057	2,013
	26,468	14,935

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1895-96 bales.	1894-95 bales.
Canton	3,417	2,387
Shanghai	2,744	1,117
Yokohama	4,328	2,447
	10,489	5,951

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 3rd September.—Prices are again slightly lower. Quotations for Formosa are \$79.50 to \$80.00. During the past week sales have been 100 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 3rd September.—A large demand has been experienced from the North and prices have advanced. Following are the quotations:—Shiekloong, No. 1, White...\$7.26 to 7.30 per pol. do. " 2, White... 6.85 to 6.90 " Shiekloong, No. 1, Brown... 4.75 to 4.78 " do. " 2, Brown... 4.65 to 4.67 " Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.20 to 7.22 " do. " 2, White... 6.86 to 6.88 " do. " 1, Brown... 4.65 to 4.67 " Swatow, No. 2, Brown... 4.32 to 4.35 " Foochow Sugar Candy... 10.05 to 10.10 " Shiekloong " 8.93 to 8.95 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The German steamer *Oceana*, Hongkong to Havre, 28th August, took:—29 cases Bristles, 5 cases Human Hair, 40 packages Chinaware, 2 cases Silk Goods, 250 cases Cassia, and 150 packages Canes; for Havre option Hamburg:—40 bales Bamboos, 120 bales Canes, and 250 cases Camphor; for Havre option Hamburg option London:—500 bales Cassia, 342 cases Camphor, 3,485 boxes Cassia Ligna, and 300 bales Cassia Ligna; for Hamburg:—37 cases Cassia, 272 packages Canes, 68 bales Feathers, 52 cases

Bristles, 15 packages Tea, 20C bales Galangal, 60 cases Palmieaffans, 50 casks Ginger, 32 rolls Matting, 500 bales Broken Cassia, 3 bales Paper, 5 cases Chinaware, and 13 packages Sundries; for Hamburg option London:—20 cases Bristles and 1 case Samples.

The P. & O. steamer *Rohilla*, Hongkong to London, 29th August, took:—90 bales Raw Silk, 25 bales Waste Silk, 7 cases Silk Piece Goods, 1 case Cigars, 1 case Sundries, and 390 boxes Tea (8,190 lbs. Congou); for Amsterdam:—3 packages Tea; for France:—528 bales Raw Silk, 50 bales Waste Silk, and 4 cases Silk Piece Goods; for Milan:—30 bales Raw Silk; for Trieste:—200 bales Pierced Cocoons.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 3rd September.—Bengal.—The market has ruled dull in the interval, and prices have declined to \$697½ for New Patna, \$700 for Old Patna, \$690 for New Benares, and \$662½ for Old Benares.

Malwa.—There has not been any change in prices and transactions have been small. The following are the latest figures:—

New\$700 with allowance of 0 to 4 cts.
Old (2 years)...\$720 " " 0 to 3 "
Older\$740 " " 0 to 2 "

Persian.—The market has been inactive and a slight decline has taken place in the prices for Oily drug. Latest quotations are \$680 to \$715 for Oily and \$755 to \$845 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna1,970 chests.
Old Patna..... 71 "
New Benares 380 "
Old Benares 310 "
Malwa 400 "
Persian 700 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1895.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aug. 29	697½	700	687½	683½	700	720/740
Aug. 30	695	700	687½	682½	700	720/740
Aug. 31	698½	700	690	682½	700	720/740
Sept. 1	697½	700	690	682½	700	720/740
Sept. 2	697½	700	690	682½	700	720/740
Sept. 3	697½	700	690	682½	700	720/740

RICE.

HONGKONG, 3rd September.—The demand continues and the market remains firm. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary\$2.12 to 2.14 per picul.
" Round, good quality 2.42 to 2.44
" Long 2.53 to 2.56
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 2.12 to 2.15
" Garden, " No. 1 2.53 to 2.55
Siam White 3.12 to 3.15
" Fine Cargo 3.22 to 3.25

COALS.

HONGKONG, 3rd September.—The market continues quiet. Small sales of Japanese reported at low prices ex godown. Quotations are:—

Cardiff\$12.00 to 13.00 ex ship, sellers.
Australian — to 7.50 ex godown, nominal.
Mikie Lump... 6.50 to — ex ship, nominal.
Mikie Small... 5.50 to — ex ship, nominal.
Moji Lump ... 4.50 to 5.75 ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Lump... 6.50 to 7.00 ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Small... 4.00 to 4.50 ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 3rd September.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—100 bales No. 8 at \$64.50 to \$66.50, 690 bales No. 10 at \$65 to \$72.50, 620 bales No. 12 at \$66.50 to \$74.50, 75 bales No. 16 at \$78, 710 bales No. 20 at \$79 to \$85. *Grey Shirtings*.—150 pieces 10 lbs. Man Chop at \$3, 250 pieces 8½ lbs. V. Queen at \$2.52½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Snake and Elephant at \$2.60, 600 pieces Blue Fish at \$2.27½. *White Shirtings*.—750 pieces S.Q. at \$4, 250 pieces S.S. at \$4.25, 250 pieces Flower Chop at \$4.55. *T-Cloths*.—375 pieces 7 lbs. G. Pheasant at \$1.90. *Victoria Lawns*.—5,000 pieces at \$0.61. *Drills*.—75 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5. *Camlets*.—200 pieces A. A. at \$23, 200 pieces B. B. B. at \$25, 100 pieces Scarlet 3 Fish at \$14.35.

METALS.—*Iron*.—4,000 bundles Nailrods Belg. No. 1/6 at \$2.86. *Tin*.—300 slabs Foong Chai at \$36.65, 100 slabs Siam at \$36.

SHANGHAI, 29th August.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noel's report).—There has been a continual flow of business for the New Year at increasing prices, but toward the close the further advances in Manchester for the makes most sought after seem to be a little too much for the dealers, notwithstanding the slight difference in their favour caused by the rise in exchange. The upward movement of cotton appears to be more legitimate than was at first supposed, there being little doubt now that the growing crop was seriously damaged by the excessive rainfall the latter part of June and the beginning of July, which has caused a rise of fully 10 per cent. since the last mail left home. The advance in the manufactured article has certainly been irregular, but prices are so much over those now current here that the dealers, who have secured a fair supply already, are likely to hold off for a time and pay more attention to their immediate requirements, which they are beginning to find are not too well provided for and goods afloat are in more request in consequence. The tone of the market is improving for "spot" cargo, the small amount of business reported being simply through the scarcity of the makes most in request and the firmness of holders of such. Deliveries for the most part are entirely satisfactory and hardly confirm the reports of the natives regarding the dull state of the markets at most of the outports. Although full confidence has not been restored yet, the trade with Newchwang is gradually reviving, but many of the dealers prefer to send up their goods through a foreign firm still to make sure of non-interference from the Japanese, who, it is said, are not likely to evacuate much before the time the port closes for the winter. Shipments thence have been rather freer during the interval, but consist almost entirely of goods the dealers had in hand, about one half consisting of American makes. There is a steady enquiry for the special cloths for Korea.

Metals.—(From Mr. Alex. Biefield's report).—30th August.—The market has been slightly livelier this week, and several good lines of metals are reported as booked. A fair amount of business has also been done in sundries, mainly from stock. Lead has been neglected and no sales are reported. Generally the tone may be said to have improved and prospects are slowly brightening. Metals.—Sales are as under:—800 tons Sohler Exp. at 90 shillings, c.i.f. &c.; 300 tons Sohler Exp. at 100 shillings, c.i.f. &c.; 500 tons Goffin at 102 shillings c.i.f. &c.; 1,000 boxes Bamboo Steel £10.7.0 c.i.f. "Double Horse"; 250 boxes Tinplates, 108 lbs. 4.10, spot cargo; 15 cases German Silver at Tls. 45.00 to 46.00 per picul. Scrap Material.—In Old Iron the following lines have been contracted for:—200 tons Scrap Iron at 64 shillings, c.i.f. guaranteed weight. 300 tons Horseshoes at 75.6 shillings, c.i.f., guaranteed weight. 150 to 200 tons Cobles, terms private.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 3rd September.—Rates have continued to rise and the market to rule firm. A fair amount of business has been put through during the week, and the market closes steady at quotations.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled firm with sales at 180, 181, and 182 per cent. prem.; at time of writing shares are enquired for at 184 per cent. prem. without finding sellers. No business to report in other bank stock.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have changed hands at \$75 and \$74 in small lots, closing steady at former rate. Unions have again changed hands at \$180, and Straits at \$22½ and \$22½, closing at former rate.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have ruled somewhat weaker with sellers at \$235, and no buyers. Chinas after again changing hands at \$85 have advanced a point and could be placed at \$86. A sale at \$92 for March next has been reported.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been unsteady between \$33½ to \$34 with sales at those and intermediate rates. It is rumoured that the return of \$5 per share capital has been practically decided upon; we give the rumour only for what it is worth; at time of writing market closes with sales at \$33½. Douglas's continue to change hands at \$54½ and \$55, closing with probable sellers at the former rate. Other shipping stock continues neglected at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue on offer at \$103 without finding buyers. Luzons are enquired for at \$46 and could probably be

placed at \$47; no shares, however, appear to be on offer at these rates.

MINING.—Punjoms have found buyers at \$4, and more shares could be placed at the same rate and even at 25 cents. higher; shares, however, are not offering in any quantity. Preferences are enquired for at \$1.20. Raubs have receded to \$4, with sales. Charbonnages are somewhat firmer at \$115. Balmorals have continued out of favour and the rate has receded without sales to \$3. In other mining stock we have nothing to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have materially improved their position with sales at 106, 108, 110, 112, and 113 per cent. prem., closing firm at latter rate, and with probable buyers at 114 per cent. prem.; at the last moment a sale has been effected at 115 per cent. prem. Lands have also improved to \$64, after sales at \$62½ to \$63, and close firm at that rate (\$64). Tramways have advanced to \$90. Electrics are enquired for at \$5.75 and Fenwicks at \$19. Watsons have ruled in good demand with sales at \$10.25, market closing with buyers and no sellers at the rate.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[buyers]
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	184 p. ct. prem.,
China & Japan, prf.	...	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	nominal
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$25½
Foun. Shares	£1	\$26½
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	\$10
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$3, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$2, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$103, sellers
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	10 p. ct. prem.
Dakin, Cruickshank & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$8, sales & buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$20, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$50	\$10½, sales & buyers
H. Brick and Cement	\$12½	\$7, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$110
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$5.75, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$90
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$6
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$87, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$44, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	114 p. ct. prem.,
Insurances—		[buyers]
Canton	\$50	\$180, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$86
China Traders'	\$25	\$74, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$235, sellers
North-China	£25	Tls. 200, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$22½, sales
Union	\$25	\$180, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$103
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$64, sales
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$8
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$12, buyers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$47
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$115, buyers
Jebeu	\$5	\$3.40, sellers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$3, sellers
Punjom	\$3½	\$4.25, buyers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$1.20, buyers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$4, sales
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$62½
China Shippers	£5	£2.11.6
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$54½, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$20	\$33½, sales & buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$47, sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$37½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$10½, sales & buyers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 30th August.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares were sold on the 23rd at 179 per cent premium. The market afterwards weakened, and cash shares were sold at 178. Yesterday cash shares were placed at 179, and at 187½ per cent premium for delivery on the 30th November. The market closes firm with buyers. The London quotation is £42.10.0. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have changed hands at Tls. 35, and Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares have been placed to Hongkong at \$33.50. Docks.—S. C. Farnham & Co.—The directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ending 30th June last have been published, for the meeting of

shareholders called for the 3rd proximo. The net profits amount to Tls. 164,872.77, equal to 21.98 per cent. on the capital, as against 20.96 per cent. in the previous term. Including a balance of Tls. 7,551.71 brought forward, there is a sum of Tls. 172,424.48, to be dealt with, and the directors propose to divide it as follows:—A dividend of Tls. 12 per share, Tls. 65,000 to credit of Reserve Fund, which will then stand at Tls. 130,000, Tls. 10,000 to be written off for depreciation, and Tls. 7,424.48 to be carried forward. Shares have been sold at Tls. 165. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' Insurance shares were placed from Hongkong at \$75. Shares are offering there at the same price, but the rise in the rate of exchange is against purchasers from the Colony. North-Chinas were placed, and are wanted, at Tls. 205. Yangtszes were sold at \$100, but are now wanted at better rates. Straits shares were sold at \$22½ and \$21½. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs changed hands at \$232½. Chinas were placed at \$85½ and \$86 for cash and \$93 and \$91 for delivery on 31st March, and are wanted at this rate. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were placed, and are wanted, at Tls. 300. Several transactions have taken place in Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown shares at \$42½ to \$45. We quote \$44 as the closing rate. Mining.—The report and accounts of the Sheridan Consolidated Milling Co. for 1894 were passed at the adjourned meeting of shareholders held on the 27th instant. The profit and loss account shows a loss of \$25,797.36, which added to the debit balance of Tls. 107,656.99 on 31st December, 1893, makes a debit balance of Tls. 133,454.35. Raub Mining shares changed hands at \$4. Miscellaneous.—Hongkong Electric shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$4.75 and \$5.75. Perak Sugar shares changed hands at Tls. 33 and are offering. China Sugar Refining shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$104. Shanghai Land Investment shares, fully paid up, were placed at Tls. 62½. Shares in J. Llewellyn & Co. were sold at \$25, and are wanted. Major Brothers shares changed hands at Tls. 254, and Hall and Holtz shares at \$20. In Tobacco shares, Sumatras were parted at Tls. 130 and Tls. 120, and are wanted at the latter price. One or two lots of Langkats were sold at Tls. 215, but the market improved and sales were made at Tls. 217½ and Tls. 220. Shanghai Ice shares were placed at Tls. 117½, and some Ewo Cotton shares were sold at Tls. 23½. Shares in the Shanghai Rice Mill, with Tls. 25 paid up, were placed at Tls. 30. The Loan Kung Mow Cotton Spinning Co. was floated on the 24th, and we add it to our list.

TUESDAY, 3rd September.
CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
EXCHANGE

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.72
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.78
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.20
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	52½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	195
Bank, on demand	195½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	195
Bank, on demand	195½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	par.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	3 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	½ % dis.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$9.10
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	47.40

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 30th August (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—The limited demand for homeward tonnage during the past fortnight does not point to any improvement in business as regards shipments to London and Northern Continental ports, while for New York, with the exception of tea, the same remark applies, the amount of general cargo shipped

per each succeeding direct steamer representing a very small proportion of their total freights, which, so far this season, have been exceptionally large. The rate on tea to London, Northern Continental ports, and New York, via London, has been at last reduced to 50s. per ton, but otherwise rates remain unchanged. Coastwise.—Now that the Japanese have no further employment for several steamers recently under charter to them a great number have been released and are seeking employment at any price that is offering; consequently rates of freight are exceedingly low and our quotations must be considered as purely nominal. For London via Suez.—The small quantity of cargo offering has been equally distributed between the four departing steamers, and we have now the following vessels expected to load and sail during the next few days, viz.:—*Glenavon* 30th inst., *Diomed* 4th prox., *Glenorchy*, *Benvenue*, and *Oolong* about 10th prox., *Myrmidon* 11th prox. Rates of freight are:—From Shanghai to London by Conference Lines, general 40s.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; Northern Continental ports, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; New York, general cargo 50s.; tea 45s.; New York via London, general cargo 50s.; tea 50s.; Boston, general cargo 52s. 6d.; Philadelphia, general cargo 60s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London by Shell Line, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg, general cargo 35s. net; New York, general cargo 50s., less 10 per cent.; Havre direct, general cargo 37s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 35s.; general cargo 40s.; Marseilles, tallow 35s.; general cargo 37s. 6d.; 45s. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York by sail 21s.; New York by Pacific Lines, tea 1½ cent gold. Coast rates are:—Chinkiang to Canton, 13 candareens; Moji to Shanghai, \$1 per ton coal nominal; Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1 per ton coal nominal. No disengaged vessel in port.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Glenavon* (str.), *Oolong* (str.), *Manila* (str.), *Bengal* (str.), *Diomed* (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—*Dordogne* (str.).
For BREMEN.—*Oldenburg* (str.).
For LONDON and ANTWERP.—*Carmarthenshire* (str.).
For PORTLAND.—*Mount Lebanon*.
For VICTORIA.—*Victoria* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Lyndhurst*, *City of Peking* (str.), *Belgie* (str.).
For NEW YORK.—*Annandale* (str.), *George S. Homer*, *P. N. Blanchard*, *Adam W. Spies*, *Sam Skolfield*.
For BALTIMORE.—*Fred. P. Litchfield*.
For AUSTRALIA.—*Mogul* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

August—
28, Nanyang, German str., from Chefoo.
29, Leeyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
29, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
29, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
29, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
29, Hupeh, British str., from Swatow.
29, Donar, German str., from Bangkok.
30, Redbreast, British gunboat, from Swatow.
30, Benalder, British str., from Foochow.
30, Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.
30, Fram, Norw. str., from Saigon.
30, Germania, German str., from Batoum.
30, Hunan, British str., from Newchwang.
30, Sam. Skolfield, Amr. ship, from Shanghai.
30, Taicheong, German str., from Aroe Bay.
30, Ulloa, Spanish gunboat, from Shanghai.
30, Activ, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
30, Bentala, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
30, Cass, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
30, Glenearn, British str., from Amoy.
30, Tamar, British troopship, from Yokohama.
31, Strathfillan, British str., from Kobe.
31, Kwongmo, British str., from Amoy.
31, Helene Rickmers, Ger. str., from Nagasaki.
31, Formosa, British str., from Tainan.
31, Rio, German str., from Saigon.
31, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
31, Matterhorn, British bark, from N. York.
31, Devawongse, British str., from Bangkok.

September—

1, Ariel, Norw. str., from New York.
1, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F. cisco.
1, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
1, Frejr, Danish str., from Hoihow.
1, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
1, Leeyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
1, Luebeck, German str., from Kobe.

1, Nanyang, German str., from Canton.
1, Siam, British str., from Saigon.
1, Thales, British str., from Tainanfoo.
1, Invertay, British str., from Saigon.
2, Bengloe, British str., from Moji.
2, Stanfield, British bark, from Shanghai.
2, Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
2, Oxus, French str., from Shanghai.
3, Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
3, Hermann, German str., from Hamburg.
3, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
3, No. 558, Ger. torpedo-boat, from Elbing.
3, No. 559, Ger. torpedo-boat, from Elbing.
3, Gisela, Austrian str., from Kobe.
3, Kashing, British str., from Swatow.
3, Smith, Chinese str., from Pakhoi.
3, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

August—DEPARTURES.

29, Belmont, British bk., for New York.
29, Canton, British str., for Swatow.
29, Continental, Dutch str., for Cebu.
29, Irene, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
29, Leeyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
29, Nanyang, German str., for Canton.
29, Niobe, German str., for Yokohama.
29, Rohilla, British str., for Europe.
29, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
30, Hohenzollern, German str., for Yokohama.
30, Oldenburg, German str., for Shanghai.
30, Guthrie, British str., for Port Darwin.
30, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
30, Feiting, Chinese torpedo g.-bt., for Chefoo.
30, Ancona, British str., for Yokohama.
30, Cass, Chinese str., for Hoihow.
30, Fooksang, British str., for Shanghai.
30, Hupeh, British str., for Singapore.
31, Benalder, British str., for London.
31, Germania, German str., for Vladivostock.
31, Hunan, British str., for Canton.
31, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.

September—

1, Bentala, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
1, Phranang, British str., for Bangkok.
2, Activ, Danish str., for Pakhoi.
2, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
2, Kwongmo, British str., for Amoy.
2, Leeyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
2, Serrano, Amr. bark, for Gorontalo.
3, Lina, German bark, for Callao.
3, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
3, Annandale, British str., for Singapore.
3, Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.
3, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
3, Glenearn, British str., for Kobe.
3, Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.
3, NANYANG, German str., for Shanghai.
3, Sabine Rickmers, German str., for Amoy.
3, Smith, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
3, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
3, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *City of Peking*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Capt. and Mrs. Welman and child, Rev. and Mrs. M. C. McClintock and child, Miss Hynan.

DEPARTED.

Per *Guthrie*, str., for Sydney, &c.—Miss Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Seton Lindsay, Masters Lindsay (2), Mrs. Skertchley, Miss and Master Skertchley.

Per *Hohenzollern*, str., for Yokohama from Southampton.—Mr. and Mrs. C. Wright and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. T. Payne and child, Messrs. A. Devonshire, M. Hatcher, H. Clark, W. Potter, J. Hart, Mr. and Mrs. W. Goslin. From Bremen.—Mr. H. Nakamura. From Naples.—Lieut. Heincke, Mr. R. Menarchi. From Colombo.—Miss Newcombe, Miss A. Eshe-gine, Mr. Esucharan. From Singapore.—Mr. M. Braunschweig. From Hongkong.—Mr. M. Papier, Mrs. Kohn and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. U. J. Luz and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Stolterfoht, Mr. and Mrs. Lo Kai Yuen and 3 children, Messrs. T. Barbein, P. Wishkowski, E. U. Mohomed, C. von Bose, E. Georg, B. Chauffour. For Nagasaki from Singapore.—Mrs. O. K. Mollat. For Hyogo from Hongkong.—Mr. J. Fenton.

Per *Oldenburg*, str., for Shanghai from Southampton.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Wright and children. From Genoa.—Messrs. Otto Anz and H. von Bucher. From Hongkong.—Messrs. K. J. Kotewal, G. O. Surwer, A. Marshall, F. W. Bark, Master Tom van Herback, and Mr. J. P. Cottam.